EPTEMBER AUG 1 1 1923 25 CENTS

POPULAR MECHANICS MAGAZINE

WITH WHICH IS INCORPORATED THE ILLUSTRATED WORLD

WRITTEN SO YOU CAN UNDERSTAND IT

REG'D. TRADE MARK. GREAT BRITAIN. No. 410426 REG. U. S. PAT. OFF.

SEE PAGE 359

Insure Your Future Now!

SAVE $100.00

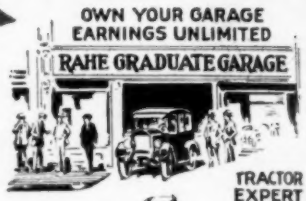
Which Will YOU Be at 40 ? THIS or THIS

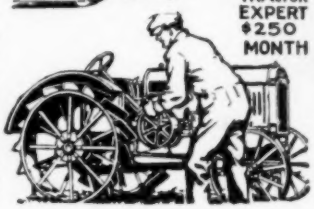
GET IN THE AUTO BUSINESS

TO you ambitious men this announcement presents a worthwhile opportunity—a chance to get out of the poor paying job with no future, into work where the big money is being made.

The Rahe Auto & Tractor Schools, the first and largest in the world, make this real money-saving, income-increasing offer to you. Get away now from the tiresome grind of a poor job into a big paying position in the biggest business of today.

You need not be a mechanic now. Thousands of men from all walks of life, even ex-doctors and ex-lawyers, are today enjoying fine incomes in the auto and tractor business because they took the RAHE training. You can do the same FOR HALF PRICE if you act NOW. Realize your biggest dreams; be independent and have no fear of the future.





Regular tuition price $200 — Now Cut To $100

Luck has nothing to do with SUCCESS. THOROUGH TRAINING is the thing that COUNTS MOST. Start on your way today to get a thorough training — A RAHE TRAINING. It only TAKES YOU EIGHT SHORT WEEKS by our PRACTICAL-JOB-METHOD to get this valuable training. Then you can step right into a big paying job in the unlimited Automobile Field.

Insure your future now — the RAHE WAY—it PAYS.

J. H. McSWEENEY.

Remember this offer is good SEPTEMBER ONLY. Because of our two big schools our operating expense is less. You get the advantage of this—a present of $100—if you ACT NOW. After October 1st it will be too late.

Our method of teaching is practical. You learn in the best equipped schools in the country under the personal instruction of experts by actual work on all the various types of engines. You get a thorough knowledge of all parts of all motor cars, tractors, and stationary engines.

This year we actually expect to turn men away from October to March. Pack your grip. Come to school right now or write today before it is too late. Let us show you how you can save $100.

Fill out and mail the coupon today. START NOW on your way to a better job with a better income; a more comfortable home, with more pleasure in years to come.

SUCCESS—does not require unusual ability. It does require TRAINING—CONCENTRATION on one thing and STICKING-TO-IT until YOU WIN.

Begin—Right Now—Today! Get into this tremendous Automotive Field—AND WIN. You can do it with our JOB METHOD. Learn the "RAHE WAY". There's always BIG MONEY for the TRAINED MAN. RAHE training means—Learning with YOUR HANDS and NOT BOOKS. A REAL JOB at REAL PAY is waiting for you. The "RAHE WAY" PAYS.

R. C. CARMEIN.

RAHE AUTO & TRACTOR SCHOOLS
(Address School Nearest You) Dept. 890

Without any obligation, send me your big free book and all information about your limited offer. The Rahe Schools have no facilities for colored men. (Print name and address.)

NAME.....

ADDRESS.....

CITY.....STATE.....

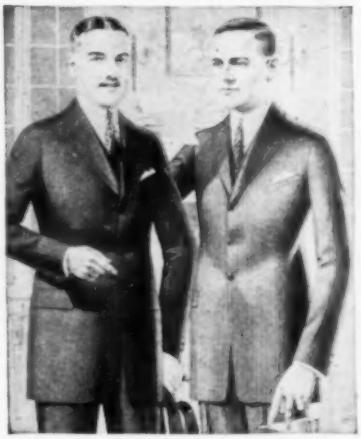
MAIL COUPON TODAY—

Let us show you how you can save $100 and get the valuable training in 8 short weeks.

Rahe Auto & Tractor Schools

Ninth and Walnut CINCINNATI — **Dept. 890** — **CHICAGO 4445 Grand Blvd.**

If I Can Offer You a Job that pays $100.00 a week and up, from the start, even to a man without any experience, are you interested? Then write me—today.



I will take on 1000 more agent-salesmen

this season and train and develop them myself and I can almost guarantee each one of these men will earn this one season at least $2500—or at the rate of $5000 and upwards a year. I want these men to show our beautiful samples of Fall and Winter All Wool Goods and take orders for Men's Finest Made-to-Measure Suits and Overcoats, customer to have his choice of any material in the entire line, all at the one low price of **$31.75**, guaranteed equal in every way to suits and overcoats that sell generally at from $50.00 to $60.00.

They sell like hot cakes. Orders come easy. Men never saw such values—$60 All Wool Made-to-Measure Suits and Overcoats at **$31.75**—perfect fit and satisfaction guaranteed—choice of more than 100 different All Wool fabrics, and all at the one low price. It is a high-class, permanent business. Your customers are so well pleased they tell their friends and your income grows from season to season. **You get your pay the minute you take the order—the cash goes in your pocket. You get the order almost as soon as you show your samples—people never saw such values.**

Only 1000 more agencies

to be established this season—then all our sample lines will be placed. If you are interested, don't delay your application. Write me today sure.

More than 50 handsome Style Models similar to the above, but printed in full colors—just one of the many features of the GOODWEAR Line that helps you to sell it so effectively and so profitably.

No money or experience is needed

We have plenty of agents making big money who never took an order before. We furnish everything necessary and explain about taking measures which is simple and easy! We take all the risk and guarantee the customer perfect fit and satisfaction or refund the money.

I will furnish each Goodwear agent this handsome, compact sample case and outfit as illustrated, with large 6 x 9 inch swatch samples, beautiful portfolio of fashions printed in colors, business cards, price lists, stationery, sales manual, (a real course in salesmanship), etc., etc. The most effective selling ou fit ever put out. And I will give my men co-operation and assistance and make every man a sure-fire money-making success.

Even your spare time

will do. Full time is better, but even if you have just spare time to give this work you can make fine profits. I will be glad to send you full particulars.

TAILORING AGENTS EVERYWHERE

No matter what line you now have, write me and get the full facts about the wonderful money making, quick selling, one price Goodwear line. Other salesmen and agents, you who are now selling groceries, books, magazines, toilet goods, raincoats, shirts, kitchenware—no matter what you are working at—I advise you to write me at once and see how much better proposition I can offer you.

Write today sure

—don't put it off, you can start off quick as you get your outfit. Send me a letter or a postal, just say, "Write me full particulars," or mail the coupon. *Do It NOW!*

To LOUIS S. SCHWARTZ, Manager

GOODWEAR CHICAGO, Inc., Dept. 568, Chicago

Send at once, all free, all details of your proposition.

Name.....

P. O.....*State*.....

St. & No.....*R. F. D*.....*Box*.....

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Flood of Lava from Mt. Etna Spreading Death and Destruction over Surrounding Country: Thousands were Made Homeless by the Recent Activity of the Volcano in Italy.—See Page 434

Popular Mechanics Magazine

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WRITTEN SO YOU CAN UNDERSTAND IT

Vol. 40 SEPTEMBER, 1923 No. 3

Romance of the Typewriter Revealed on Its Fiftieth Anniversary

ALTHOUGH it has freed the world from pen slavery, facilitated the tremendous growth of modern business, and opened the doors of opportunity to women, the typewriter is only 50 years old.

While it has knit the world closer together and its influence has been felt in the shaping of language and even of human thought, the man still in his fifties can distinctly remember when this "new-fangled" writing machine was only an object of curiosity.

Its birthplace was a little machine shop in the outskirts of Milwaukee where three middle-aged, thoughtful, and hard-working men, looked upon as "cranks" by their neighbors, labored upon pet inventions of their own.

One of them, a printer and "newspaperman" by trade, was engaged in developing a machine for numbering serially the pages of blank books. In this work, he had interested the second, while the third put in his time trying to invent a mechanical "spader" to take the place of a plow.

Chance caused the three to drop the inventions on which they had been working and to pool their interests in a new and greater undertaking. According to the story of one of them, the idea arose out of a remark made when the paging machine was nearing completion:

"Why cannot such a machine be made that will write letters and words and not figures only?"

As a result of the remark they designed the "Pterotype," but it was never perfected. Model after model was built until 25 or 30 had been turned out, and finally, in 1873, a machine was constructed which was deemed sufficiently perfected for actual manufacture.

It wrote only capital letters and was a very primitive-looking affair. The carriage was returned by a curious foot treadle, which, however, demonstrated its uselessness and was soon displaced by the now familiar hand-carriage return. Nevertheless, the fundamental principles of construction embodied in this first typewriter still survive.

First Typewriter Put on the Market in 1873 with Curious Foot Treadle to Return Carriage

The public took to the new invention rather gingerly. There was prejudice against printed letters to begin with. Many

Primitive-Looking Machines, the Forerunners of the Modern Typewriter That has in a Few Brief Years Freed the World from Pen Slavery and Opened the Doors of Business to Women

correspondents resented them as an insinuation against their ability to read and write. The story is classic of the Kentucky mountaineer who returned his first typewritten letter to the man who wrote it with the words indignantly scribbled on the margin, "You needn't print no letters for me, I kin read writin'."

Lack of public interest was painfully in evidence at the Centennial Exposition in Philadelphia in 1876, where two of the greatest inventions of modern times made their first appearance—the telephone and the typewriter. While the telephone was the center of attraction, the typewriter stood in an obscure corner among the exhibits and was viewed largely as a "freak" invention.

BATHING MACHINE IS DRIVEN IN WATER BY PEDALS

Bicycle pedals, connected by a chain with the propeller of a bathing boat used this season in a middle-western city, develop a speed of six miles per hour, the inventors say. This is equal to the rate of an ordinary small motorboat. The rider, wearing a swimming suit, sits in

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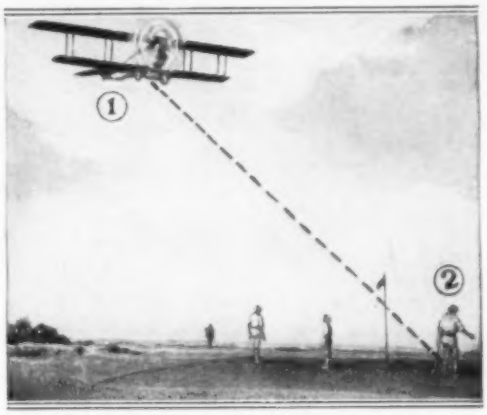
Rider Operating Bathing Boat by Pumping Bicycle Pedals That are Connected by Chain with Propeller

the center of the boat as he pumps the pedals with little more effort than in riding a bicycle, controlling the rudder with the hands. By changing the size of the gears, he can cut down or increase speed. In rough water the boat rides the surface well, being made stable by the weight of the bather, though tipping over does no harm.

Estimates place the amount of oxygen in the earth's atmosphere as 1,000 times greater than that present in the air surrounding the planet Venus.

AIRPLANES IN GOLF MATCH DROP BALLS ON GREEN

Airplanes and field glasses are the only things needed by airmen taking part in aerial golf games, to "drive" the ball to

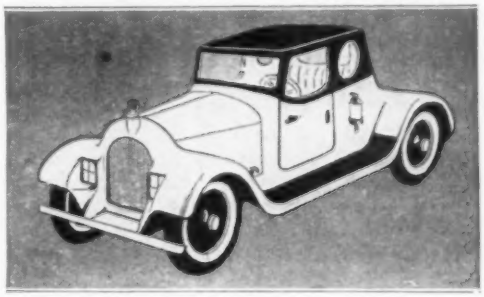


Ground Players Score the Holes After Balls have been Dropped by Aerial Golfers

the putting green. Two men are necessary for a team, one, ascending in the plane, locates the greens through his glasses, dropping the balls upon them, if possible. Then they are placed in the holes by a few strokes by the ground player. As many balls are carried by the flier as there are holes on the course.

AUTO FENDERS ADD BEAUTY TO BODY OF CAR

Entirely changing the appearance of an automobile, front fenders have been made by a western inventor that are part of the body, inclose the headlights, and serve as part of the radiator shell. The lines flow into the body of the car, leaving no corners to catch dirt and making it easy to clean. Distinctive in appearance, the fender gives beauty of line.



Automobile Equipped with Fender That Appears to have been Molded onto Body

WHEEL BRUSHES THE SHOES OF PASSING SHOPPERS

As an added attraction to his establishment, a California cobbler has placed a

Shoppers Take Advantage of This Progressive Shoemaker's Invitation to Have Their Shoes Cleaned

machine outside his show window to brush the shoes of any who care to avail themselves of it. A wheel of stiff bristles, revolving on a shaft driven by machinery inside the store, is raised high enough from the sidewalk so that the foot can be inserted under it and pressed against the brush, whisking the dust off in a few seconds. The noon hour seems to be its busiest time, a line of people often waiting for a chance to use it.

SCALE SAVES FARMER'S TIME BY DOING HIS FIGURING

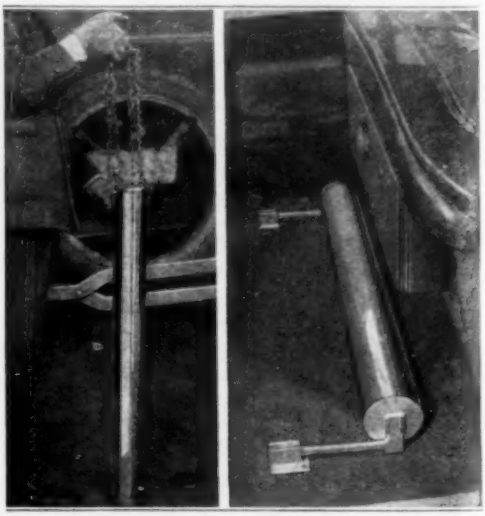
If he knows the length of a field, a farmer can find with a pocket scale, recently marketed, the number of rows and tenths of a row to an acre in planting any distance from 6 inches to 7 feet apart. By one movement of a sliding index in a paper cover the correct figures are obtained. The same calculator converts bushel prices into prices per 100 pounds. It also includes a breeding scale for cattle, sows, mares, and ewes. Another type is made for the lumberman for measuring board feet.

HOLDER FOR ICE IN PITCHER KEEPS CONTENTS CLEAN

So that ice will not come into contact with liquids in a pitcher recently patented, it is placed in a compartment in the center of the utensil. Drinks are cooled as effectively as if the ice were floated in them and are more sanitary because melted ice does not mix with them. A cap fits over the container.

AUTO CHAINS IN FOOTREST SAVE SPACE IN CAR

Serving as a rigid, durable footrest, a kit for skid chains is being marketed as one of the latest automobile accessories. Compact and neat in appearance, the device not only adds to the passenger's comfort but provides a concealed yet safe and handy place for the chains, keeping them until needed. As the cylinder is closed at both ends, there is no danger of their being lost. It is easily installed on the floor of any make of car, and in an



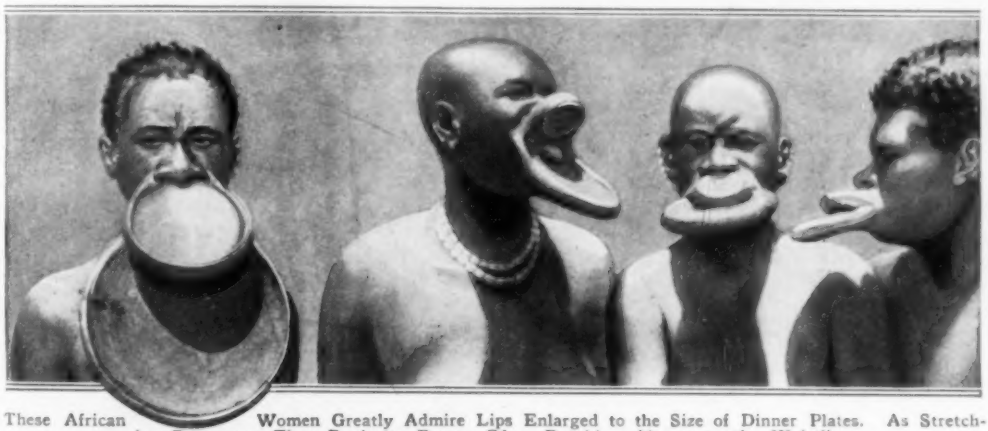
Skid Chain Kit as It Appears While being Used as a Footrest

emergency the holder may be used to carry water.

LIPS STRETCHING TO EYES ADORN AFRICAN WOMEN

In Africa, where many curious things are done in the name of tribal custom, there is a province where women stretch their lips with wooden disks, because it is fashionable to have large lips. When, at the age of 5 or 6 years, a native girl is engaged to marry, a ceremony is held for the first lip piercing. Her future husband thrusts a straw through her lips, where it remains for three months, when a round piece of wood is put in its place. Every three months thereafter a larger disk is used until, when the girl has become a young woman, the wood is as large as an ordinary plate. After about 7 years of this treatment the lips are so enlarged that the girl has difficulty in eating. Many then take only liquid food. Big lips, some so large that they can be pulled up over the eyes, are a mark of beauty. French officials in control of the province are making efforts to have the practice stopped, it is said.

Prevented from Eating Solid Foods, This Woman Pours Liquids into Her Distorted Mouth



These African Women Greatly Admire Lips Enlarged to the Size of Dinner Plates. As Stretching Progresses They Begin to Droop, Often Reaching Almost to the Waistline

UNCLE SAM COLLECTS GEMS FOR PRICELESS EXHIBIT

For 40 years Uncle Sam has been collecting jewels until there is now one of the finest collections of precious gems in the world in the national museum. Through the exhibits there displayed, it is shown that practically every known gem is to be found somewhere in the United States. No longer need the jewel collector hie himself to South Africa for diamonds, since the diamonds are to be found in Arkansas, North Carolina, Kentucky, Georgia, Ohio, Wisconsin, Colorado, and California. Montana leads in the production of sapphires and also of rubies, while others of the same family, especially the true emerald, which is often more valuable than diamonds of equal size, is found in North Carolina and New Mexico. The topaz collection is remarkable for its size and the great range of colors shown. While the largest and richest of the blue variety of the topaz comes from Russia, Colorado has produced a marvelous reddish-brown stone, that cannot be excelled, while the clear varieties from New England and Utah are as lovely as a diamond. Many lands have given garnets, but the finest are from New Mexico. Nevada's opals have become important in the commercial world. Fresh water pearls come from the mussel and are found in the rivers of Arkansas, Indiana, and Tennessee.

RIGID AUTO SHADE PROTECTS DRIVER FROM THE SUN

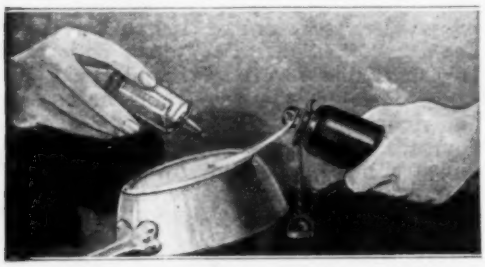
To guard the automobile driver from the sun, rain, and wind, a rigid shade has been made that rolls up like an ordinary

Rigid Automobile Shade to Protect the Driver from Sun's Rays, Wind, and Rain

curtain. Hidden between the two folds of waterproof fabric composing the curtain, is an extension steel arm that keeps it from shaking in the wind, and holds it rigidly in any position. Used on the driver's side of a closed car, the window may be left open, the shade giving protection from both the wind and the sun, or rain. It also is made in a smaller size for a visor to shade the eyes.

SAFE POCKET BLOWTORCH MADE FOR HOME USE

So small that it may be carried in a pocket, a compact, safe blowtorch for use in the home, garage, and shop, is being made. Burning all forms of alcohol,

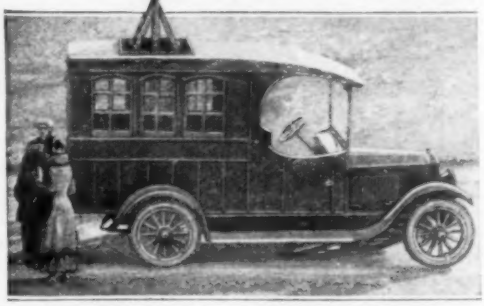


Alcohol-Burning, Self-Acting Blowtorch, Handy for Mending Kitchen Utensils or for Vulcanizing

it generates a pointed flame of intense heat capable of soldering large pieces of metal. It has many other uses, such as vulcanizing tires, removing paint, or melting materials. A thumbscrew regulates the flow of alcohol, and thus controls the length of the flame. Unlike the gasoline blowtorch, it does not have to be pumped and heated, but is self-acting, the touch of a lighted match starting it into immediate operation. A liquid solder, dispensed from a tube, is made for use in connection with the device, although it will melt that substance in either wire or bar form.

TOWER CAR RAISES CAMERA ABOVE HEADS OF CROWD

Crowds will no longer make it necessary for the newspaper photographer to climb trees and poles with his camera to get pictures of interesting scenes, if he is carried about by an auto equipped with a tower, now in use by a daily newspaper. By pressing a button, the driver can automatically elevate a small platform supported on two legs that slide through the roof of the car, carrying the camera man



With This Tower Car, the Newspaper Photographer is Assured Good Views for His Pictures

above obstructions and giving him a clear field for his work. After the picture has been taken, the tower lowers in the same manner.

FOUNTAIN PEN SUPPLIES LIGHT FOR WRITING IN DARK

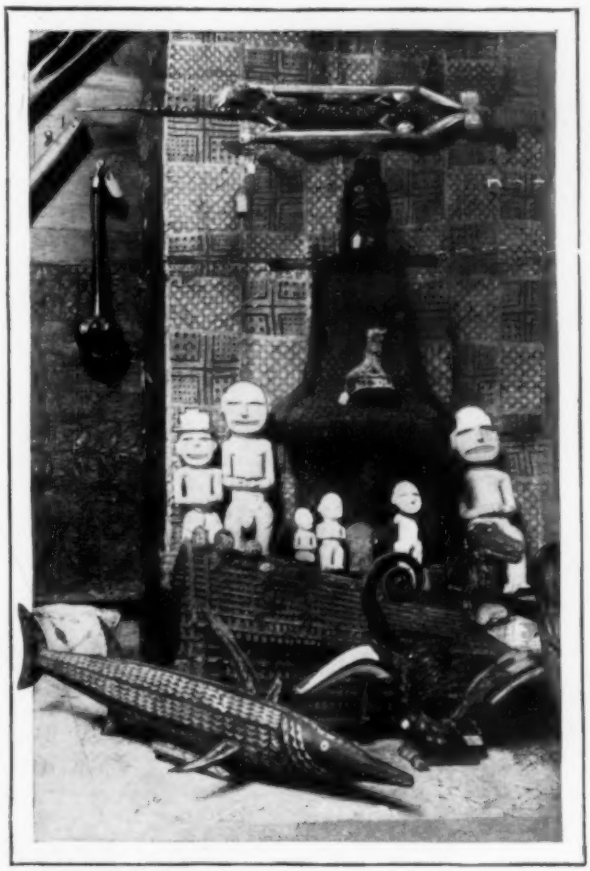
For writing in dark places, a fountain pen is made, equipped with a small flashlight on a clip fitting over the stem, and supplied electric current from a pocket-size battery. A push-button switch operates the light which casts a ray around the pen point.

POWER OF IDOLS STILL GREAT IN MANY LANDS

Great as have been the strides of civilization in the last hundred years, a very large portion of the world still is inhabited by men in a primitive stage, who fear and pay homage to strange idols of wood and stone.

During some 25 years of roaming in out-of-the-way places, a Canadian has gathered together a unique collection of these heathen deities. One is a wooden carving of a crocodile from New Ireland, one of the South Sea islands. Another is the deity of the water paid homage to by the Solomon Islanders. To it they dedicate their canoes on launching, often making human sacrifices as part of the ceremony.

Then there is the special house built for the head devil of the Fijians and also the devil himself. The head god of the Battaks, an aboriginal tribe in Sumatra, who is supposed to subsist entirely upon human bodies, also forms part of the collection. In obtaining six various-sized chalk figures, the collector nearly lost his life. These belonged to the New Irelanders, a primitive tribe of Papuan blood, who are ancestor worshipers. When a member of a chief's family dies, one of these images is made from the chalk found in the Rossel Mountains. It is brought very secretly to the chief's house and placed in a chapel. The spirit of the deceased is then supposed to enter the figure and remain ever after. Among other idols in the collection are a god of ancient Mexico; three heads of cocoanuts carved in odd designs by natives of British New Guinea, and carvings of the rhinoceros hornbill made by the sea Dyaks, and representations of a fish, the Bonito, that is held sacred in the Stewart group of islands.



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Idols and Charms Credited by Their Worshipers with Possessing Marvelous Powers of Good and Evil

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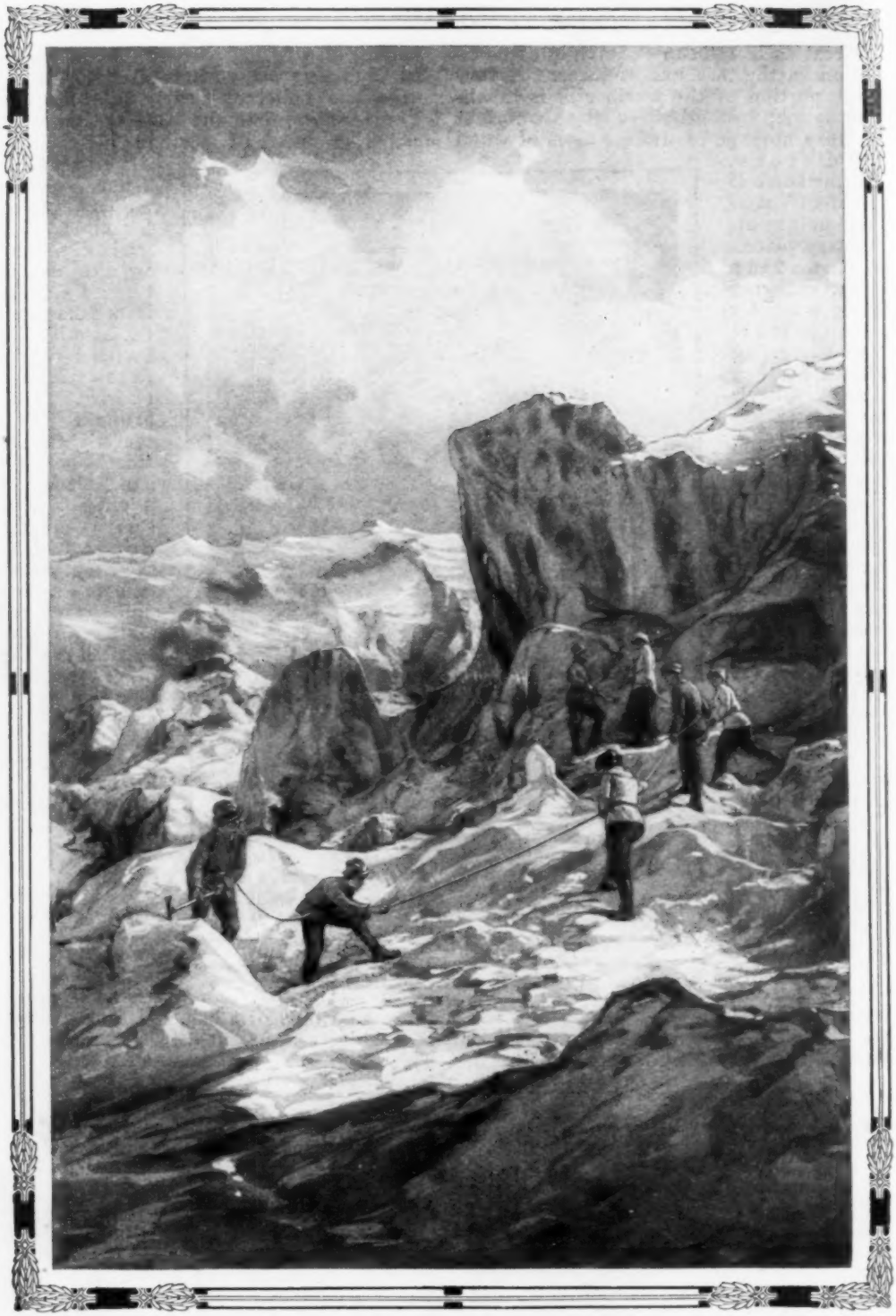
INSECTS' SENSE OF COLOR IS SHOWN BY TESTS

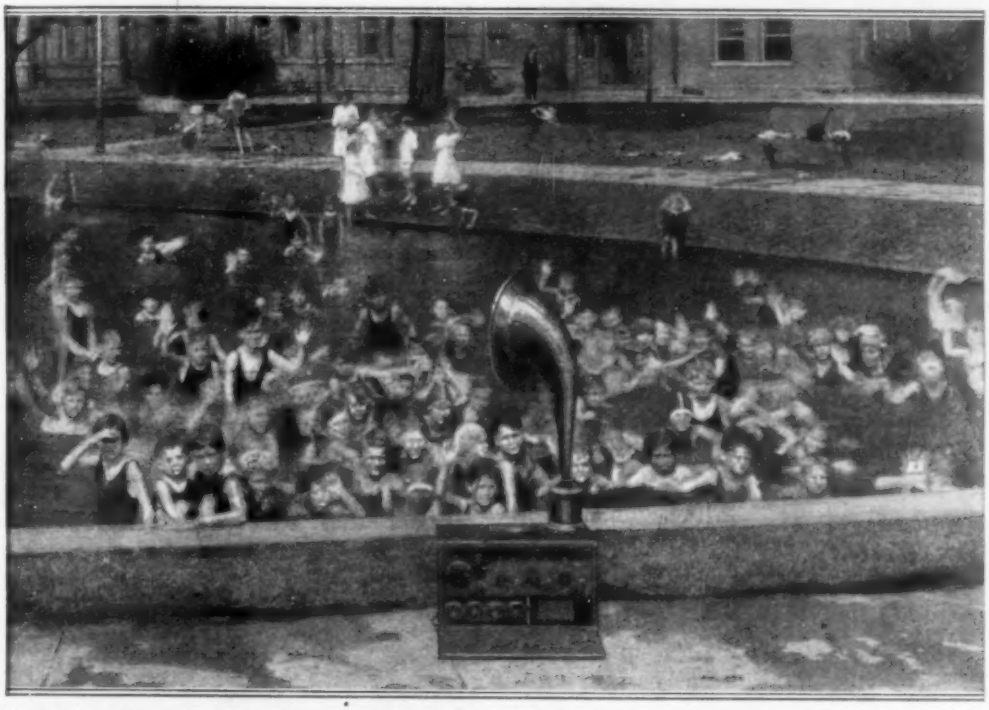
While naturalists have long known that insects have a highly developed sense of smell, recent investigations have indicated that they also have keen color preferences. For instance, the mosquito prefers navy blue to 16 other shades, and positively shuns yellow. Flies have no liking for pale blue, but will settle thickly on white objects. Both flies and mosquitoes will respond to light and darkness. Colors of flowers attract many insects, but the more effective bait is their perfume. So pronounced is this excitement to odors that a scientist has asserted that it could be adapted to rid the cotton-growing states of the boll-weevil pest. He has suggested that the male boll weevil could be lured into traps by reproducing from coal tar certain fumes.



Hardy Mountain Guides and Party of Tourists Braving Hidden Perils to Conquer Alpine Peak: All are Tied Together So They may Not be Separated If Engulfed by a Snowslide

SWIMMING LESSONS ARE GIVEN BOYS BY WIRELESS

Guided by a voice from the air, a class of boys and girls at a public beach recently were taught how to swim. Just as though the tutor were present, the youngsters obeyed instructions that came to them by means of a radio set placed near the edge of the pool. Fitted with an amplifier, the commands of the absent teacher carried to all parts of the big outdoor tank, although he was talking to them from a broadcasting station some distance away. Preliminary lessons were given by the instructor in person, but after his charges had mastered the essentials of the sport, the wireless took his place. Guards were stationed in the vicinity to look out for the safety of the children during the lessons.



Youthful Beginners Receiving Instructions in the Art of Swimming by Radio from Their Instructor Who is Addressing Them from a Near-By Broadcasting Station.

HEROISM OF ALPINE GUIDES SAVES LIVES OF MANY

Although they risk their lives daily amid snow-capped peaks, icy precipices, and treacherous glaciers, deeds of heroism by alpine guides are so common that they pass almost unnoticed. Cut off from the outside world, they are reared from the cradle to follow their hazardous profession, a heritage from generations of hardy mountaineers. Brought up among heights famed throughout the world for their beauty and grandeur, practically their only means of livelihood is guiding the thousands of tourists who flock to the great Swiss resorts every year. One of the greatest proofs of the bravery of the guides is that, despite the many hidden perils of the winding mountain trails, serious accidents and loss of life are almost unknown. It is an honored tradition that these climbers must always be ready to sacrifice themselves to save those in their charge, and this is a code that is never violated. Usually they act in pairs, one in front and the other in the rear, with several travelers in between, all of them being tied together by long ropes about their waists. This is done, so that, even if several of the party are engulfed by a sudden snowslide, they may not become separated. Thus mountain climbing develops nimbleness and all-around strength.

CART DRIVEN BY DOG POWER IS AN AID TO INVALID

As a means of travel about the streets of his neighborhood, a disabled Belgian war veteran has employed his dog to furnish power for propelling a cart of his own making. The animal is harnessed so as not to obstruct the rider's view of the road ahead. A set of handlebars geared to the wheels assists in driving the vehicle and at the same time serves for steering. The carriage is built of light materials, moving at a speed of five to six miles an hour without great exertion. Placed behind the cart, the animal stops or starts at a command from its master.

Geared Handlebars Help This Belgian Soldier's Dog to Pull His Homemade Carriage

DIESEL ENGINE FOR AUTOS TO INCREASE MILEAGE

Through the use of a Diesel-type engine, recently tested in the West, in automobiles, motorists see the hope of ending fuel and ignition troubles, and the attainment of long mileages impossible today. While this design of power plant has been used previously on boats, it has not heretofore proved practical in small units. Its advantage is that it readily burns heavy fuel oils, and has no spark plugs, coils, or ignition system of any kind. The mixture is ignited by the heat of the air compressed by the piston. This temperature is so great that the fuel injected into the cylinder is instantly fired. At present the average consumption of "gas" in the United States is more than 10,000,000 gallons daily and the supply is limited by the fact that only about 20 per cent of the crude oil is available as gasoline. To supply the deficiency it has been necessary to "crack," that is, to distill under pressure, some of the heavier oils into motor fuel. This has resulted in fouling of plugs and carbon troubles. With the Diesel engine these handicaps would be done away with as it is designed to take advantage of the greater latent energy in the heavier oils.

RANGE FINDERS FROM GUNS USED AS TELESCOPES

Cut from the guns used in Europe during the war, small range finders are being marketed for use as monoculars for bird and nature study. They come in attractive leather cases with straps to go over the shoulders. Although roughly finished, the places where they have been sawed from the rifles still being visible, they are provided with fine lenses adjustable to the eye.

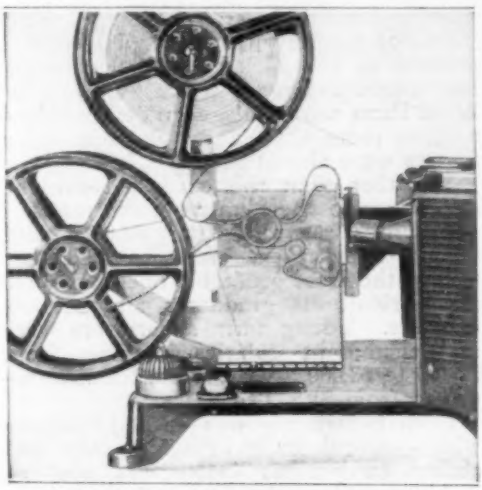
WARDROBE TRUNK HAS DOORS ON TOP AND AT SIDES

Doors on the top and at the sides, hangers for several suits or dresses, six drawers that slide sideways into the trunk, and an unusual provision for laundry are some of the features of a wardrobe trunk recently put on the market. There is no danger of scratching a floor when the side doors are opened, as they swing out 2 inches above the trunk base.

Trunk That Has Doors at Top and Sides and Several Drawers That can be Locked Separately

PAPER MOVIE FILMS TO END THE DANGER OF FIRE

For the use in homes, churches, schools, and other places outside of the theater, a portable motion-picture projector has been developed that uses inexpensive, noninflammable paper films. It is said that this machine eliminates all danger of fire, and that it is so simple it may be operated by a child. Besides being used for movies, it also may be employed as a magic lantern, showing solid objects on the screen in either plain or natural colors without altering it in any way. This feature is expected to prove of value in teaching botany, engineering, and chemistry. The device projects the pictures by reflection instead of, as in the ordinary projector, by penetration of light through the film. Rays from the lamp are thrown on the picture or object at an angle from the front, instead of behind the film. The object is thus reflected forward onto the screen. Light is provided from any standard electric-lamp fitting.



Portable Motion-Picture Machine That Uses Paper Instead of the Usual Celluloid Films

SCRAP TIN TURNED INTO TOYS

Out of 100 tons of scrap tin from salmon canneries of British Columbia, that has been piled in huge dump heaps in recent years, are to come armies of little tin soldiers, numbers of horses, miniature trains, jumping jacks, and other child's toys. American toy makers recently purchased the waste for use in their business.

SAFETY SEAT PREVENTS FALLS WHILE WASHING WINDOWS

For preventing falls while washing windows in the home, a safety seat has been made which swings on two chains attached to hooks in the window frames. A strap stretched between the chains supports the worker's back in comfort, at the same time acting as a guard against loss of balance, leaving the body free for movements required in the cleaning.

Seat Swing for Preventing Accidents to Those Washing Outside Surfaces of Windows

ANIMAL SO SMALL IT LIVES IN A DROP OF WATER

So tiny that it can be seen only by aid of a magnifying glass, an animal, heretofore unknown, has been discovered by an eastern scientist. By means of whiplash strokes of hairlike projections covering its body it can move rapidly about in a drop of water. The little creature feeds chiefly on germs and other animals living in the water. It measures about one two-hundredths of an inch long and is less than one-fourth as wide.

¶ Toy balloons won the distance records in a recent Paris, France, balloon race in which they were matched against real gas bags. Every one of the larger craft was reported to have been greatly outdistanced.

What the World Offers the College Man

Rewards of Farming and Teaching Professions Prove Attractive to Increasing Numbers of Graduates

WITH a record-breaking increase reported in the numbers of young men seeking admission to universities throughout the country, the question of what the future holds for the graduate is more frequently heard than ever before.

Agriculture, transportation, industry, and business are all calling for trained men in constantly increasing numbers. Law, medicine, chemistry, electrical and mechanical engineering are offering a wider range of opportunities. College-trained men are being sought everywhere.

And yet it is pointed out that Lincoln got all his knowledge of the law by the light of a log fire at nights at home. Edison was a train "butcher." Marshall Field clerked in a country store. One of the country's greatest steel men began life as a water boy, and numberless high railway executives started as telegraph operators, section hands, and in lowly clerical positions.

With these and countless other examples before them, many persons are inclined to question the value in dollars and cents of a full college course. "Does it really pay?" "Is it years wasted during what should be the period of easiest mental growth and manual training —time spent in obtaining a foothold on the ladder of success and the building of firm foundations for future achievement?"

These were the questions put by Popular Mechanics to a score of successful executives and employers in one of the largest industrial centers of the country. Most of them had never even finished high school, but when asked whether a college training was worth while, the answer in every case was:

"Yes!"

Many, however, qualified their answers by declaring that, while a degree was desirable, it was not absolutely essential to success in any line except, possibly, in medicine.

"It all depends on the man," said one. "Take two men of equal intelligence and let one enter college and another go into business. At the end of four years the one with the practical experience will command a much higher salary, but usually the college man will advance more rapidly when he starts because he has a broader vision, greater ability to assimilate knowledge, and more confidence in himself."

How conditions are changing in the world of industry was also reflected in a canvass of the 34 highest executives of an eastern railway. It was found that 27 of them were college graduates. Just a little more than a decade ago, these figures were almost reversed, it being the rule rather than the exception for the executives to come up from the ranks.

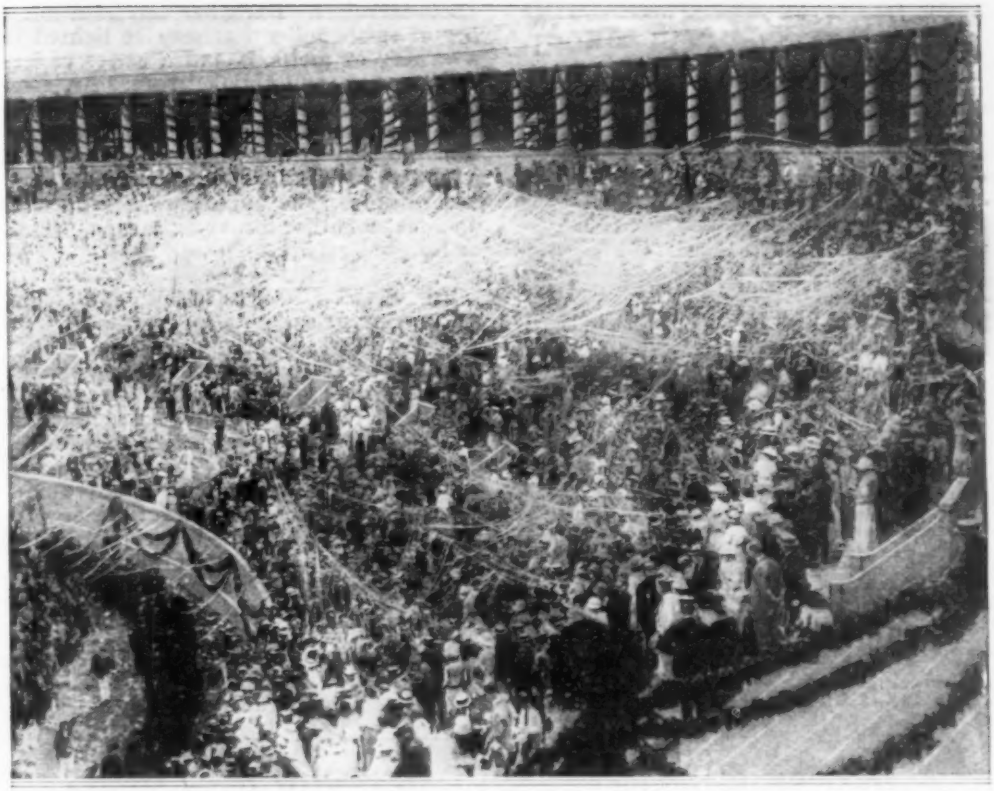
Inquiries regarding the salaries paid college men at the start revealed that two of the most profitable openings were for agricultural graduates and school-teachers. Young farm supervisors were in demand at salaries ranging from $2,400 to $3,600 a year, while teachers received from $1,500 to $3,000.

Even higher pay was offered teachers who qualified both in scholarship and ability to act as instructors and as coaches of high-school basketball or football teams.

Wages Paid in One Industrial Center

Occupation	Salary to start	Income after four years	Education required
Doctor	None	$3,600	5 years college
Lawyer	$900 to $1,200	$3,600	6-7 years college
Dentist	$1,800 to $2,500	$3,800	5 years college
Mechanical Engineer	$1,440 to $1,800	$3,400	4 years college
Electrical Engineer	$1,440	$3,000	4 years college
Bricklayer	$1.25 per hour	.....	4 years apprentice
Plumber	$1.15 per hour	.....	4 years apprentice
Plasterer	$1.25 per hour	.....	4 years apprentice
Farmer	$2,400 to $3,600	.....	4 years college
School-Teacher	$1,500 to $3,000	.....	4 years college
Musician	$3,900	.....	.....

[These figures are not intended to represent general averages. They were compiled after a careful canvass among employers in one of the largest industrial centers of the country and the sums are given only to indicate the general trend of wages in certain lines. As far as the trades are concerned, the figures are for employes.—Editor's Note.]



Confetti Battle That Marks the End of the College Year at Harvard and the Beginning of the Struggle for Fame and Fortune on the Part of the Graduates

On the other hand the young doctor, who entered a hospital as an interne after his graduation, received nothing but his board and room for the first year, while dentists who went to work as assistants received an average of about $1,800.

In the engineering lines, many of the larger companies have apprenticeship courses. Students begin these during the summer vacations while they are in school, thus cutting down the period required considerably.

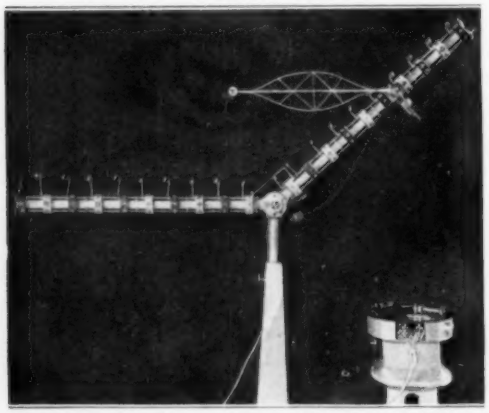
This system also is being adopted by many of the great commercial organizations in training executives, the effort being made to add practical experience to the theoretical knowledge gained at college.

In picking men, employers have expressed considerable preference for those who have worked their way through school, believing that this training has resulted in greater self-reliance, and has developed ingenuity and imagination.

Melting-Pot Graduation Class, Composed of Children Born in 10 Different Countries, Who Received Their Diplomas Recently from a High School in a Middle-Western City

EYE DEFECTS ARE CORRECTED BY EXERCISING SCALE

Exercising the eyes to restore proper muscular balance and thus obviate the necessity of glasses in many cases is the object of a machine recently invented. Consisting of two long arms and a pendulum that moves either in an arc or a circle, the device provides more than 1,600 exercises. Each bar carries a number of small bulbs that may be lighted in a variety of methods and a series of letters, figures, and tiny mirrors. An electric attachment automatically controls its operation. Failure of the eyes to function properly at any angle is easily determined and then the exercises are outlined accordingly. The apparatus is supported on a pivot so that it may be turned, raised, or lowered at will.



Machine Designed to Remove Muscular Defects of Eyes by a System of Drills

RAYS OF LIGHT CARRY VOICE THROUGH AIR TO PHONE

Light waves were used to carry the human voice to a telephone receiver in a recent test in Europe. Selenium, a mineral that is very sensitive to changes in light reflected on it, was the principal aid. A beam was cast on a concave mirror which also received vibrations from a speaker's voice. Rays from the mirror were reflected on a selenium cell connected with an ordinary telephone receiver. As words were spoken the intensity of the light changed. The mineral cell carried these vibrations to the phone. At the test it was possible to send messages in only one direction.

JAPANESE SHRINE IS BUILT OF GOLD AND GEMS

Creative power and imagination of the most skillful artists, metal workers, and weavers of a Japanese city recently engaged in the making of a small shrine, called mikoshi, borne on the shoulders of youths on festival days. At a carnival young men carried through the streets the 5,000-pound shrine, of delicately fashioned gold, silver, pearls, and coral on which artists worked for three years. Built at enormous expense, it was carried away after a few hours, not to reappear for five years, when the festival will be repeated.

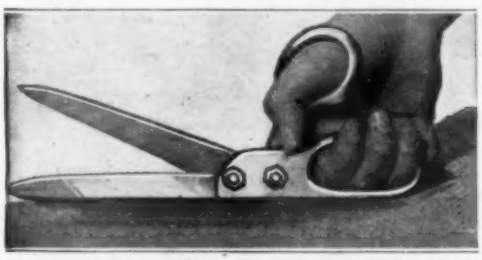
Youths Bearing Sacred Burden Shown Once Every Five Years. At Right: Shrine That is Built of Gold and Gems, Including 6,000 Pearls

EAR MUFFS HOLD HAT ON WITH HIDDEN SPRING

Ear muffs have been patented that attach to an invisible steel spring worn inside of the hatband. When not in use, they are small enough to carry conveniently in the vest pocket. Attached in an instant, they fit so closely to the head that the hat cannot be blown off, allowing the owner to warm his hands in his pockets. Made of attractive material, the muffs have proved a great convenience in changeable climates because of the ease with which they may be attached.

SHEARS WITH FIXED BLADE GIVE MORE ACCURACY

Resembling an ordinary pair of scissors, a device for cutting satin, silk or other fabrics has been invented that is designed to increase accuracy and deftness. Only one blade is movable. As the upper part of the instrument is pressed down upon the cloth, the lower section rests firmly on the table top, giving the operator a solid support. Thus it may be guided easily along the outlines of a pattern. The shearing power is multiplied by the addition of an extra joint between the thumb and the upper knife edge. It is intended for the use of tailors.



Shears with Lower Blade That Rests on Table, Made to Increase Accuracy

¶ Ice-cream making takes 3.39 per cent of the 99,000,000,000 pounds of milk produced annually in the United States.

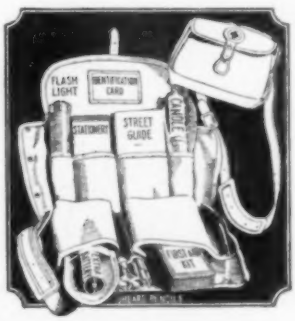
EMOTIONS TESTED BY MACHINE AND ACCURATELY RECORDED

First used as an aid to science, a machine has been found of value in testing and recording emotions. It is said to describe all impulses accurately. Strapped to the wrist of a subject, a rubber tube carries the vibrations of the heart beats or emotion, to a delicate needle, fitted with a marking point. If, while undergoing the test, a person becomes unduly excited, the needle records the fact on a revolving roll of paper.

Device That Records Emotions was First Intended to Test and Describe Heart Action

RED-CROSS FIRST-AID KIT BUILT LIKE KNAPSACK

From a hunter's small knapsack, with a few changes in the pockets, there is being made a kit for American Red-Cross workers to carry when they are at disasters. Though small and light, the pack contains a complete first-aid kit, flashlight and extra battery, shears, pencils, writing paper, candle, a street guide, and other articles. In a middle-western city it is now being used by first-aid workers. Because the case is made of a heavy waterproof material, there is no danger of injuring the contents by rain.



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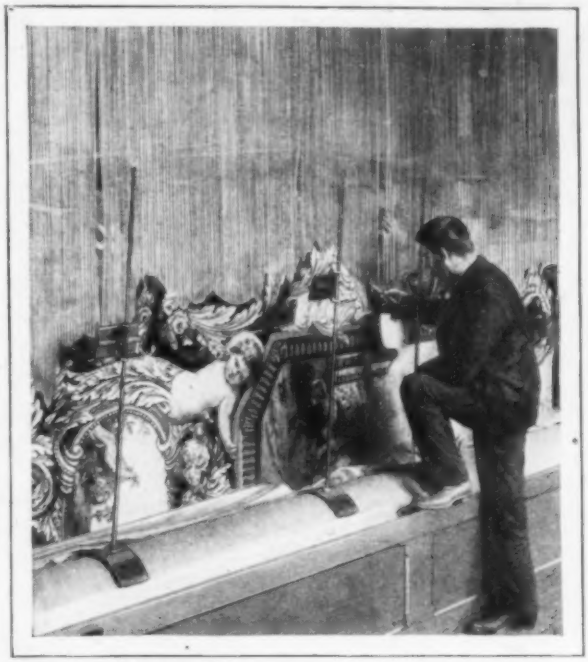
Hand-Made Oriental Tapestries Prized for Beauty of Design and Rare Workmanship Often Receive Their Finishing Touches at the Hands of Children Working with Needle and Yarn

WEAVING PICTURES FOR OUR FLOORS

Creating designs of beauty and weaving them into carpets and rugs have been the means of earning an existence for many people since earliest times. In the Oriental countries the traveling rug weaver still finds plenty to do in the way of producing tapestry work for his countrymen. While he sets up his weaving frame and does his work by hand, the tapestry makers of the United States and Europe employ huge machines that turn out strong and beautifully ornamented fabrics that serve to make home cozy and attractive.

The machine-made rug or carpet, while of the best of materials, is not quite so costly as the hand-made article. Designed by men and women who have been trained in special schools, the entire fabric is carefully planned before the materials are given to the machine for weaving and finishing.

Cotton, hemp, wool, and often silk yarns are used in making the different grades of tapestries. The warp, or longitudinal thread, forms the main body or background of the woven fabric. The number of warps used determines the width of the finished article. The weft forms most of the design, serves as a ground for the pattern, and determines length. Mechanical fingers pass the weft over and under the warp, knotting and looping it to give a close, durable finish. Where a heavy pile face is to be put into the fabric, two wefts are needed.



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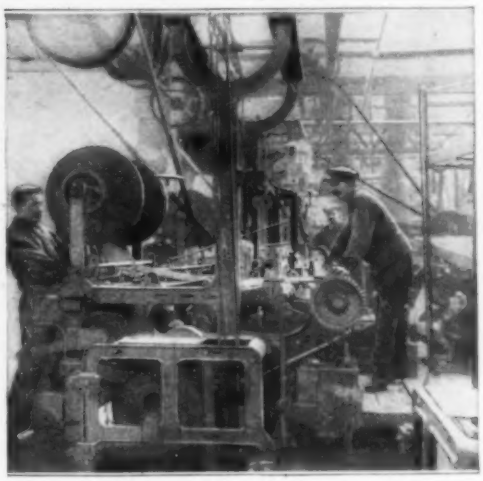
Beginning a Masterpiece, the Tapestry Weaver Inspects Each Thread as It is Placed in Position by His Helpers

Revolving Knives Trim the Pile of Machine-Made Carpets to a Velvet Finish

One of these forms the ground, while the other is so looped about the warp that a thin wire with a knife-edge quickly cuts the looped yarn, allowing the two ends to rise vertically from the surface. After weaving, the finished material is



Automatic Rug Looms Now Perform Marvelous Work Designed for Them by Accomplished Artists

then run through the shearing machine, where a series of brushes loosen the fibers of the pile so that the shearing knives in passing over them will leave an even velvetlike finish to the surface.

In many of the crude forms of rug weaving the body is first woven by hand on a wooden weaving frame which stands before the worker or is placed level with the ground. Removing the body from the frame, the weaver then knots in the design, using a needle and colored yarns to get the desired scheme.

Old hand-woven tapestries are today as highly prized as the rarest jewels, and much time and study are given to their collection by dealers throughout the world.

AIR PATROL OVER SAHARA GUARDS DESERT PEACE

Protecting travelers and safeguarding peaceful natives in a country three times the size of France, is the work of the aerial police in Algiers. Before this flying unit was organized, an army of thousands of men was kept there to defend the territory and to put down uprisings of rebels and roving bandits. Many soldiers were killed in these fights, but since the airplane squadron took up the patrolling, not one man has been lost. In most cases the sight of the flying machine is enough to quell any trouble, but in the event that it is not, exploding bombs which the airmen carry quickly settle the disturbances. Until the French government occupied the region, the towns were frequently attacked and raided by warlike tribes of desert men. Strong, high walls were built around the houses and cities to aid in their defense.

ROGUES' GALLERY OF PESTS IS KEPT FOR FARMERS

For the benefit of farmers and fruit growers, government scientists keep a rogues' gallery that rivals in completeness that of any criminal institution in the world. There are recorded great numbers of insects that are ruinous to plant life. Each year the department sends out experts to hunt down "criminal" pests and to broadcast the methods of getting rid of them. Recently, after following a trail that led him over a great portion of Mexico, one of the scientists returned with specimens of the little-known fruit fly. It sometimes spoils shipments of Mexican fruit into the United States and in some sections has done great damage to crops, although it is not feared as much as its relative, the Mediterranean fly, since it does not thrive in certain localities. It bores into fruit while it is on the tree, causing it to fall to the ground and rot. Its eggs are laid in the ground.

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Aerial View from French Military Patrolling Plane, Showing Sahara Desert Village: High Stone Walls have been Built around the Houses to Repel Attacks of Warlike Tribesmen

Rushing Rivers, Golden Minarets and Rainbows of Dazzling Beauty are Found Thousands of Feet below the Surface of the Earth Where Torrents Whisper Never-Ending Tales of a Dead World

FACES DEATH TO EXPLORE WONDERS BENEATH SURFACE OF EARTH

Scientist Finds Strange World of Darkness and Hidden Beauty

BY JACQUES BOYER

BURIED beneath thousands of feet of solid earth, a new world of darkness, of burning lakes, enchanting gardens, rushing rivers, golden minarets, and rainbows of dazzling beauty, has been found.

After many dangerous and futile attempts, the dark and silent abysses, where for countless ages the skeletons of strange animals have lain undisturbed, have been penetrated by man and forced to yield up many of their secrets.

Chasms without bottom, cataracts of great magnitude, splendid grottoes and rushing torrents whisper never-ending tales of a weird and dead world of spectral shapes and fantastic designs which for ages has been lying untouched almost beneath the feet of the living.

These wonders have at last been revealed through the daring of a French scientist, Edouard Alfred Hartel, who has devoted his life for the past forty years to subterranean explorations. His first investigations were at the mysterious holes of Dargilan and Padirac, which the natives for countless generations had maintained were inhabited by the devil and at the bottom of which was hell itself. Later he organized an expedition to enter fourteen gigantic crevices on the Plateau of Causses, into which no human being ever before penetrated, although tradition has it that many beasts and men have disappeared therein.

Edouard Alfred Hartel

One of his most fear-inspiring experiences was the trip into the grotto of Rabanel in France. So far as known, no human being had ever before dared to venture into its depths. Soon after this he succeeded in charting the great subterranean river of Sorgnes, near Sarzac.

It was on one of these expeditions that M. Hartel discovered the lake of fire. He was equipped with ropes, ladders, candles, ribbons of magnesium, matches, hammer, knives, a thermometer, a barometer, a gas mask and other scientific equipment.

Around his neck was strapped a small telephone so that he could keep in constant communication with companions on the surface. The wire connections on the telephone ran through the rope by means of which he was lowered into the darkness.

Before the descent commenced, soundings were taken to indicate the depth, and thermometers lowered to find the temperature. Slowly and with great caution the explorer is lowered by half a dozen men at the mouth of the pit so as to avoid the jagged rocks lining the sides. Then over the wire comes a faint cry:

"Let 'er go!"

This indicates to the anxious watchers above that he has arrived safely on a ledge or at the bottom of the pit and is ready to follow some gallery into the eternal darkness beyond.

Silence follows. It is broken by the ringing of the telephone and the cry from the depths:

"Hold on to your rope! Hold on fast! I'm arriving at a bad passage."

An agonizing interval intervenes before the bell rings again and the distant voice says:

"I am adjusting the gas mask. Suffocating odors."

Ten minutes have elapsed. Suddenly a strong jerk on the rope. The telephone rings and a voice cries: "Have lost the rope ladder! Candle went out. Have reached the bottom of the first pit."

A few seconds later he calls, "Light once more! Walking on dead animal carcasses recently fallen! Skeletons of all sizes five feet deep!"

Then he searches for the end of the rope ladder. After a few minutes he locates it and the telephone rings: "Let 'er go! Have reached the mouth of the second pit!" Silence. The journey is taken up again and now the rope registers 1,500 feet below. Again telephone rings:

"It's getting very cold! Damp! and mist! 1,800 feet. I have reached a large lake! Strange sight, burning incense. The abominable odor is getting stronger."

Blazing Lake of Fire Found Far beneath Earth's Surface by Daring Explorer Who Risked His Life to Catch a Glimpse of Wonders Never Before Viewed by Human Eyes

Then the ascent is taken up by means of the rope ladder. The explorer is out once more in the world of the living, exhausted and hungry for fresh air. Next day preparations are made for the exploration of the underground lake already discovered by the head of the expedition. A specially constructed canoe which holds three to four persons is lowered.

Explorers Use Canoe

Now the descent is no longer hazardous since the first risk has always fallen on M. Hartel's own shoulders. The explorers are armed with every scientific instrument necessary for the survey. First, the head of the explorers' party, then follow his assistants. One by one, they are slowly lowered down the pit with the canoe trailing behind.

On and on goes science, never satisfied, always ready to risk more and more, in order to unfold to the outside world the great hidden mysteries of enchanting gardens, innumerable minarets of stalagmites, rainbows of wonderful colors, and never-ending tales that are buried underneath thousands of feet of earth.

The romance of Hartel's underground explorations occupies 10 large volumes. On several occasions his life has been in great danger. Once he and his two companions lost their frail boat while making a survey of the underground river Padirac. Their candles went out and fell into the ice-cold water.

On another occasion he made the exploration in the famous Gaping-Ghyll cave of Yorkshire in England. No one dared to accompany him, so he decided to go down alone and left Madame Hartel at the telephone receiver. Sitting on his swing, he began to descend. On his way he received several baths from dripping fountains above his head, but succeeded in reaching the bottom.

Telephone Line Fails

After making a thorough examination, he came back to the phone. "Hello! Hello!" No answer. The microphone was put out of order by the water! For almost half an hour he kept shouting to his wife and his aids. Finally he was heard and was pulled back half dead.

A few years later he was invited by the Russian government to make explorations of an underground thermal river in the Caucasus. Here he was taken out, almost asphyxiated from sulphuric fumes. He has, also, made valuable observations in America. In 1912 he visited and explored the great Mammoth Cave, Yellowstone Park, and the Grand Cañon.

Born at Pontoise in 1859, the future scientist in his early life showed his appreciation of nature's beauty. His curiosity as to strange phases of nature was aroused when his parents took him upon a vacation in the Pyrenees, in 1866. Later he studied in Italy, Switzerland, Austria, and England. However, his father, a lawyer, took him into his office as a partner where he practiced law for twelve years.

Yet this did not prevent him from making frequent expeditions for scientific explorations in southern France and neighboring countries. His real work began when he made the acquaintance of a famous Alpine adventurer who, in 1882, had revealed to the public, for the first time, the wonders of the Tarn and of the Cévennes caves.

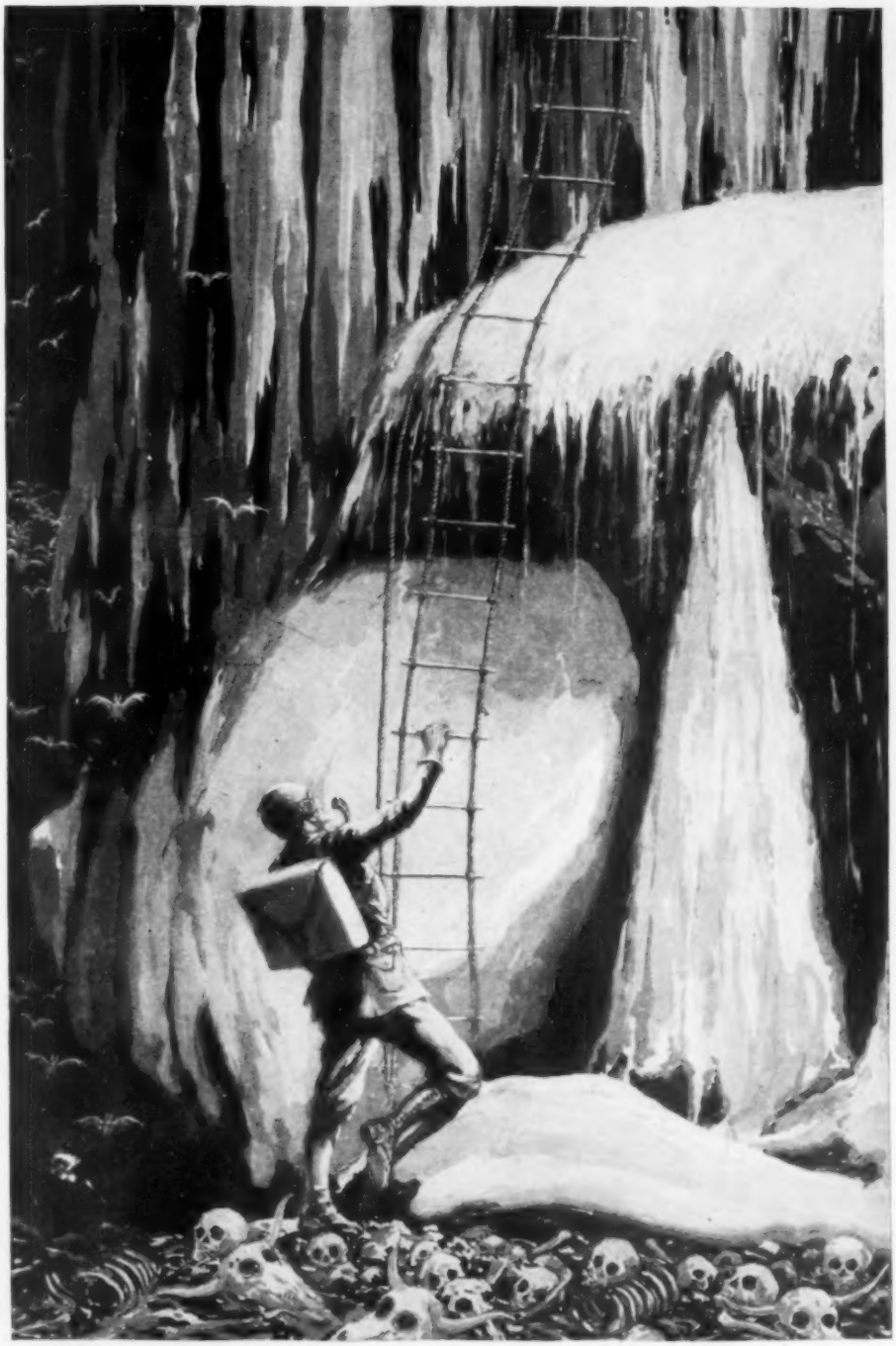
Many Obstacles Encountered

In exploring the uncharted grottoes, innumerable difficulties are encountered. It is necessary first to make a topographical and geological survey of the surroundings, at least 650 feet around the mouth of the abyss. This takes several hours. Then soundings are taken to determine the depth. For this, special instruments attached at the end of the rope are lowered down to take the temperature.

The subterranean outfit consists of several ropes, ladders, large candles, ribbons of magnesium, matches, elephant horn, hammer, knives, a thermometer, a barometer, several balls of string, a compass, topographic papers, gas masks, and other scientific instruments, first-aid packs, rum and chocolate.

Each member of the exploring party must wear the following outfit: strong laced shoes, gaiters, woolen clothes with numerous pockets, wide pantaloons, a blouse of strong material that will not easily tear by contact with sharp ledges. A cap made of boiled leather, to deaden the shock of falling rocks, and a knapsack complete the outfit.

In making the descent, the explorer installs himself on a piece of board, about half a yard long and tied in the middle by the end of the rope. A dozen men hold the rope at the mouth of the cave while another unwinds it as the explorer descends into the cave.



Telephone is Used by Explorer on Hazardous Trips into Caverns Thousands of Feet Underground, to Keep in Touch with His Companions on the Surface and Give Them Instructions

PICTURE TRAINS ADVERTISE COMMUNISM

By sending trains of picture cars into the rural districts, the Russian government is attempting to educate in the principles of communism more than 100,000,000 people who, heretofore, have propaganda and educational designs illustrating the communistic doctrines. In trying to "sell" this form of government to the peasants, the Soviets probably have become the world's largest advertisers, as

One of the Propaganda Trains being Used by Russian Government in Gigantic Advertising Campaign to Spread Doctrines of Communism among Country's Great Mass of Citizens

shown little or no interest in politics. Painted on the sides of the railroad cars by the nation's most skilled artists, are the blazoned cars are not the only means of advertising it is using in its campaign, although perhaps the most unusual.

GASOLINE MADE FROM COAL BY DISTILLING PROCESS

With a system of distillation of coal recently developed, it is now said to be possible to obtain as much as 10 gallons of gasoline, as well as other gases and oils, from a single ton of soft coal. Under the old method, which requires 2,400 degrees of heat as compared with 1,050 or 1,100 necessary in the new process, little gasoline was recovered and other gases were destroyed. A plant for distilling coal in the new way is being erected in Canada by an automobile maker. In addition to gasoline, it is reported, a single ton of coal will yield 3 gallons of creosote oils, in some cases 6 or 8 gallons of lubricating oils, 60 pounds of pitch, 12 pounds of fertilizer, and 7,500 cubic feet of gas. And the left-over, 1,500 pounds of broken-up coal, may be pulverized for industrial fuel or made into briquettes for domestic use. It is said that the semicoke is similar to anthracite coal, high in heat value, smokeless, and moderate in ash.

SUGAR-SOAKED SPONGE USED AS TRAP TO KILL ANTS

Soaking a sponge in sweetened water is an easy way to get rid of ants. Serving as a trap, it may be placed where the insects play, and when they have crawled into the pores to eat, it may be dropped into hot water, thus killing them. As it is durable, the process may be repeated as many times as desired, making it inexpensive as well as effective. On the lawn or in the garden, the lure may be put near their holes.

RADIO ON A WALKING CHAIR KEEPS BABY AMUSED

To help keep her baby amused, an eastern mother has installed a radio set on the child's walking chair. Aerials are mounted on a pole and the telephone receivers placed over the head in the usual way. Any station desired may be "tuned in" and the child left to enjoy the concert or stories from the air. Meanwhile, the child is able to push itself about and be entertained, and the cares of the mother are lightened.

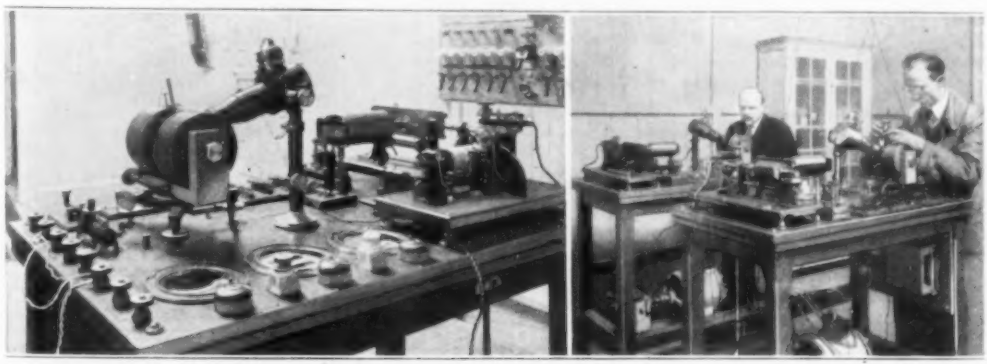
Baby being Entertained by Specially Constructed Wireless Outfit While Learning to Walk with Aid of Chair

WEALTH FROM OLD MINE

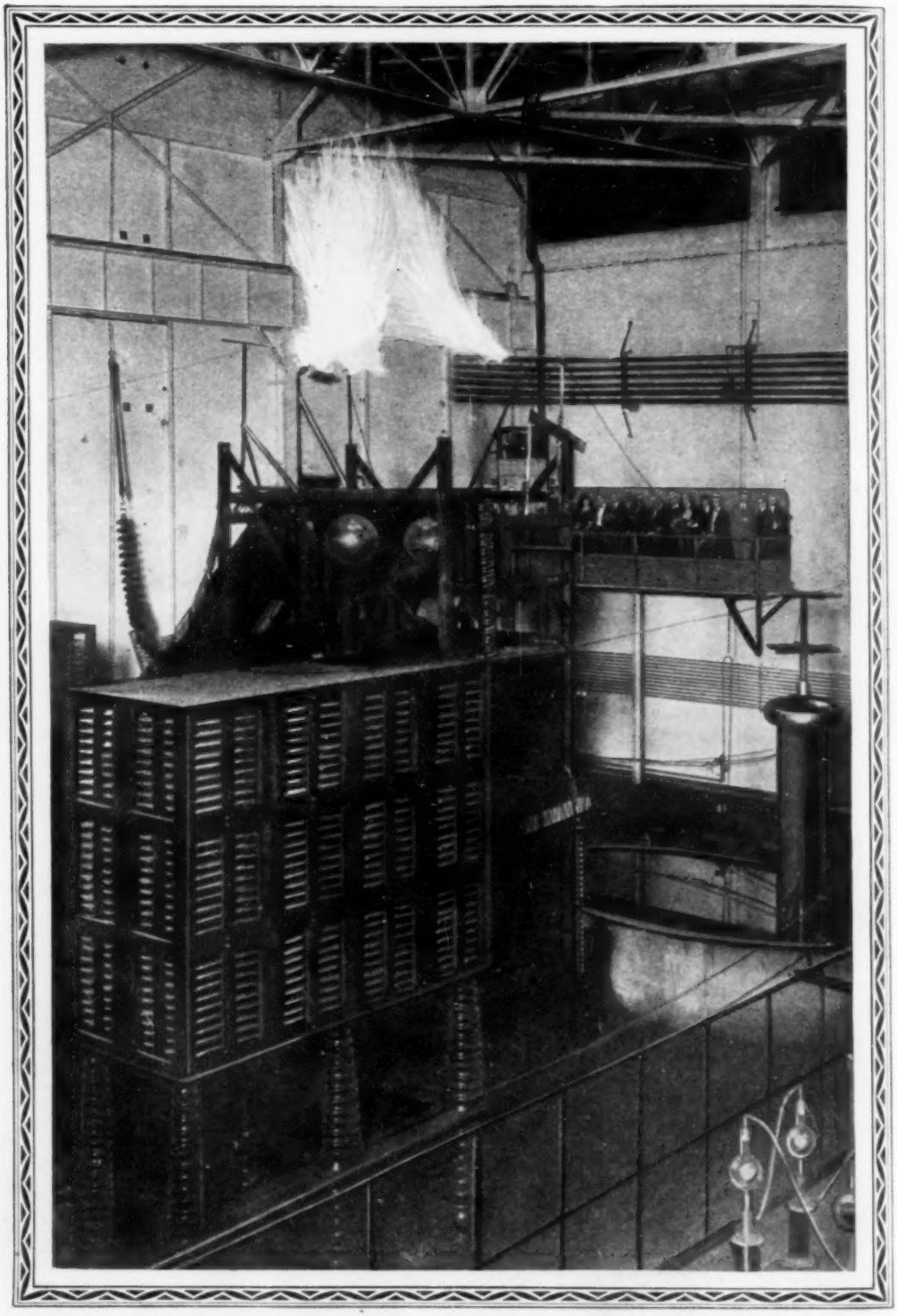
Believing that all the ore had been removed, owners of an iron mine in the Missouri Ozarks abandoned it 33 years ago, and the 17,000-acre tract surrounding the shaft was turned into a stock farm. Bought for a "song" a few years ago, the mine now is producing over 1,000 tons a day.

WRITING IS SENT OVER WIRE BY PHOTO PROCESS

In the exact handwriting of the sender, messages are being sent over telegraph wires in France at the rate of from 75 to 100 words in three minutes. Written on any kind of paper, a special ink is used that leaves a solid deposit and a slightly raised elevation when dry. This document is wrapped on a cylinder that revolves the message under a needle similar to that of a phonograph. Every time the point passes over one of the raised lines of the message, an electric current is interrupted. Every momentary stoppage of the current at the sending station causes a beam of light to be directed against a similar cylinder at the receiving end, carrying a piece of sensitive paper. When finished, the photographic blank is removed and developed, giving an autographic reproduction of the original message. The apparatus is now installed in several stations operated by the French government and has proved successful.



Transmitting Autographic Messages by Wire, Using Photographic Process of Recording the Movements of a Beam of Light Directed against Chemically Treated Paper



Man-Made Lightning being Produced in Laboratory, and Mass of Electrical Apparatus for 2,000,000-Volt Arc That Made Possible Notable Experiment before Group of Distinguished Scientists

MAN-MADE LIGHTNING BOLT WRECKS TOY VILLAGE

With a 2,000,000-volt arc of sputtering man-made lightning scientists in an eastern city recently destroyed a miniature village in a steel house built for the test. Directing the bolts at will, they struck first the miniature church tower and then the store. To make the event more realistic, the roar of thunder went with the flash and even rain was produced. Success of this experiment is said to mark a step toward the control of heavier charges of current than have ever been handled, and also protect humanity and power lines and acquire a natural source of electric energy from the air. With great power at their command, scientists believe they may be able to make coal, diamonds, and other things now found only in the crucibles of nature's laboratory.

Artificial Bolt of Lightning Destroying Miniature Church and Store during Test

MEDICINE FROM "OIL BIRDS" USED IN PERU WILDS

Anteaters that use their tails for umbrellas, birds so fat that natives catch them for their oil, blood-sucking bats, a tribe of Inca Indians that cannot live in an altitude less than 12,000 feet above sea level, and a colony of outlaws where there were no laws or taxes, were found in the little-explored tropics of Peru by a naturalist and his wife who spent 14 months in that country collecting specimens for a museum. In the domain of the outlaws, they visited a mammoth cave inhabited by the "oil birds" and captured some to put with their collection. Oil from the feathered creatures is used by the natives as food and medicine. Eighteen hundred specimens were in the store that they brought back with them recently, in addition to 20 live animals.

VANISHING SEATS AND TABLE FOR DINING IN KITCHEN

Seats and a table that vanish into the wall when not in use have been designed to turn a kitchen alcove into a cozy din-

Folding Seats and Table Designed to Turn Kitchen into a Dining Room and Save Space

ing room for four persons. When the chairs have been folded away, the table may be used for ironing and other purposes. Besides saving space for small apartments, the arrangement makes a most attractive breakfast room and saves many steps for the housewife.

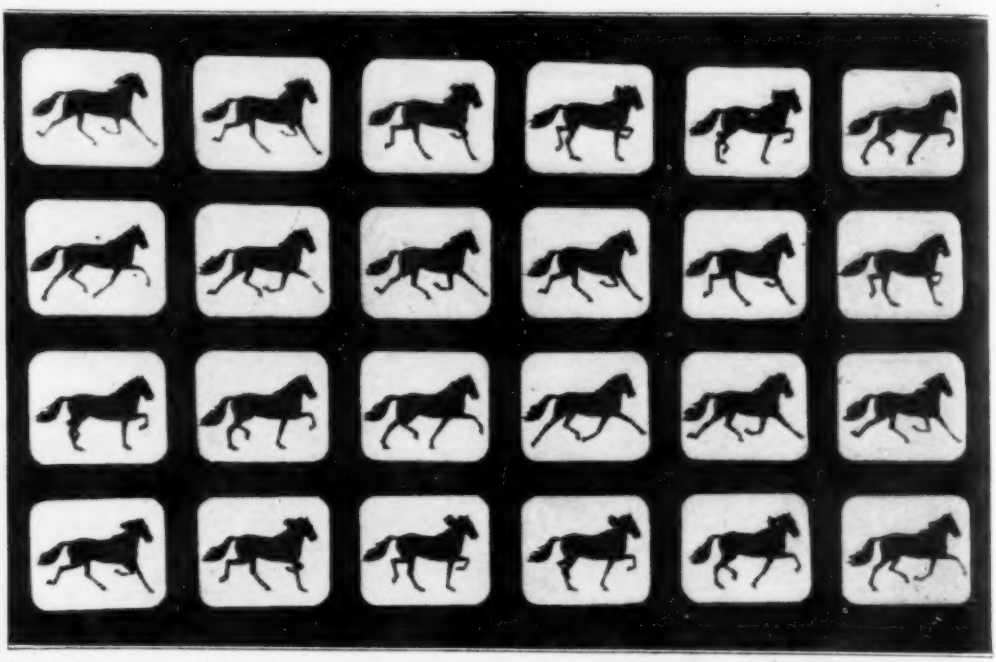
CRINKLE HAIRPIN STAYS PUT AND CANNOT BE LOST

One hairdressing with a two-way crinkle hairpin, recently put on the market, lasts from morning until bedtime. The wavy bend on one side of the pin is from left to right, and on the other side from front to back, so that there is a firm grip on the hair, holding it securely even when motoring in a high wind. Though it cannot slip, because the sides hold in different directions, it is easy to take out and will not catch or snarl the hair.

¶What is known as a "rocking shoe" has been devised recently by an army surgeon to aid persons with injured legs or ankles to recover their ability to walk.

MOVIE OF FIFTY YEARS AGO MADE TO SETTLE BET

Twenty-four ordinary cameras, placed together in a row to make pictures of a running horse, are said to be the forerunner of the movie. To see whether a trotting horse at any time has all four feet in the air, a battery of cameras was set up at a race track in the West nearly 50 years ago. As the sulky passed, its weight pressed a series of buttons on the track, forming an electric contact that exposed the plates, one after the other. These showed that at regular periods the horse entirely left the ground and also gave an idea that resulted in the movie camera. The experiment was made to settle a bet of $25,000, it is said.



Twenty-Four Photos Made 50 Years Ago with Cameras Placed Side by Side, Showing That at Regular Intervals a Trotting Horse Has Four Feet off the Ground

COUNT STEPS OF HOUSEWIFE TO CUT DOWN WORK

How to make apple pie in eight steps or a whole dinner in 80, was shown the housewife in a recent test in which the domestic-science demonstrator wore a pedometer attached to her ankle. A badly arranged kitchen, the experiment showed, causes the housewife to walk an extra two miles a day. From the morning bacon and eggs to the dessert for the evening dinner, the demonstrator wore the device, which registered each step taken. As a result, a unit combining all the features of a kitchen stove, cabinet, sink, china closet, and refrigerator has been made, designed to save many steps. Fitted for use as a table, the top of the ice box, covered with porcelain, has one end connected with the sink.

"BABY" AIRPLANE ABLE TO FLY EIGHTY MILES AN HOUR

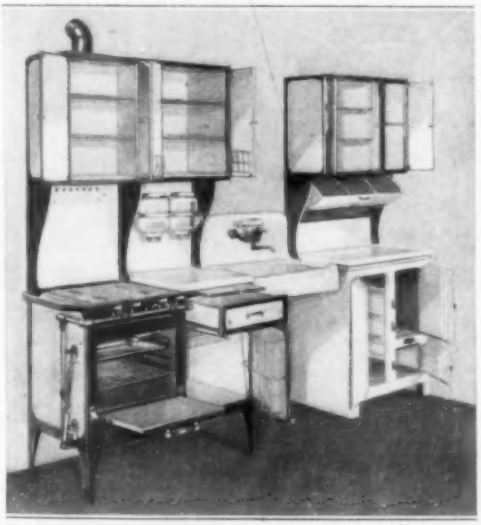
A "baby" airplane, weighing about 500 pounds with its pilot and load of fuel, performed successfully in a recent test flight, when it is reported to have climbed to an altitude of 1,200 feet. Having a wingspread of only 20 feet, it is said to be considerably smaller in that respect than the miniature French plane that was exhibited in the East not long ago. It was invented by an American aviation engineer and is equipped with a two-cylinder, 14-horsepower motorcycle engine, which, its designer asserts, will drive the craft at a maximum speed of 80 miles an hour. With the motor throttled down, the inventor believes that the machine can travel 1,200 miles on a single filling of its gasoline tank.

GEESE WEED COTTON FIELDS, REPLACING HUMAN LABOR

Geese have partly solved a labor-shortage problem that cotton growers in two lower-Mississippi states were facing. Due to the northward migration of workers, farmers found it increasingly difficult to obtain help to weed their fields. Experiments were made with geese, and it was found that they freed the ground of all undesirable vegetation without harming the cotton plants. As a result, planters are now using a goose to an acre to perform a task that was formerly done by human beings.

STOVE AND ICE BOX BUILT FOR SMALL KITCHENS

Designed to increase the efficiency of a small kitchen and reduce the housewife's labor, a unified equipment is being made that consists of a refrigerator and a four-burner gas stove. They stand on opposite sides of the sink. Over the burners of the range is a closet for cooking utensils. A drawer that fits alongside the broiler holds the cutlery, while directly beneath it is a compartment that may be used for many purposes. Jars for spices and coffee are fastened to the back of the cabinet. Smoke is carried away through a blind flue. Additional shelves

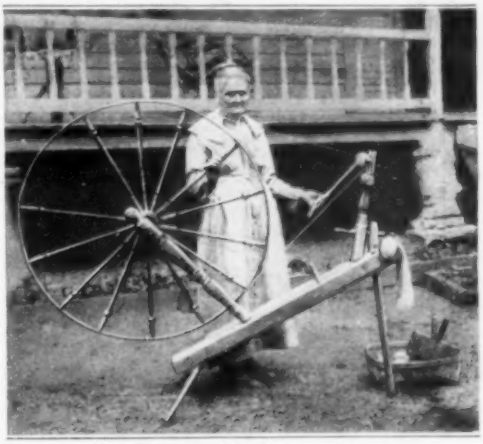


Efficient Arrangement of Stove and Refrigerator Saves Space and Labor for the Housewife

and a flour bin are attached to the ice chest, the top of which serves as a table or drainboard for dishes. Both units are enameled in white, and appear compact.

THREAD STILL SPUN BY HAND ON AN ANCIENT WHEEL

Still in use for spinning the cotton thread used in making socks, stockings, and other necessary household articles,



Aged Woman Who Daily Spins the Cotton Thread She Uses on an Old Hand-Made Wheel

an old hand-made wheel is used by an aged Alabama woman who lives on the land her grandfather bought from the Indians in 1829. She declares that her hand-made product is far superior to the best output from modern machines.

HUMAN HAIR MADE INTO CLOTH RESISTS HEAVY PRESSURE

Tons of human hair are being turned into cloth by a southern factory to supply the demand of cotton-seed oil mills of that section for a fabric that will withstand, for a time at least, a pressure of 4,000 to 4,500 pounds a square inch. Only that made from hair is strong enough. Formerly it was woven from camel's hair, but the price of that product went to such high levels as to prohibit its use. After a series of tests, a method was devised for weaving human hair in specially constructed machines. The search for a sufficient supply to keep the factory going ended in China, where buyers found a veritable army of coolies ready to sacrifice their long queues for American money. Bound in huge bales, the hair arrives at the factory ready for weaving, having already been inspected and sterilized on the way over from the Orient. Combed and carded, it is twisted into threads and fed into the looms, where it is woven into rolls of cloth ½ inch thick, the bolt weighing 400 pounds.

Peering into Depths of Lake from Skies in Search of a Sunken Ship So That Its Valuable Cargo of Coal, Worth About $50,000, may be Salvaged

HUNT LOST TREASURE SHIP WITH AIRPLANE'S AID

Driven from its course by a fierce winter storm and swept by flames which forced the crew to take to the boats, the steamer "O'Connor" sank in the northern end of Lake Michigan. The vessel, of considerable tonnage, was loaded with hard coal, valued at approximately $50,000. In the hope of being able to salvage this rich cargo, a search was begun to locate the exact position of the vessel. Yet, after two months of ceaseless effort, the lake held fast the secret of the ship's resting place. During the war, aircraft had been used in spotting submarines. Light penetrates to a great depth and, providing the bottom is of a contrasting color, any object which comes between it and the surface is clearly visible from a position directly overhead. So preparations were made to use this development of science in maritime salvage. Carrying a pilot and observer, the plane circled over the lake at a height of 500 feet. Miles were covered and the skeletons of two wrecks were found, but they proved not to be the ship sought. So the mystery of the last berth of the "O'Connor" remains unsolved.

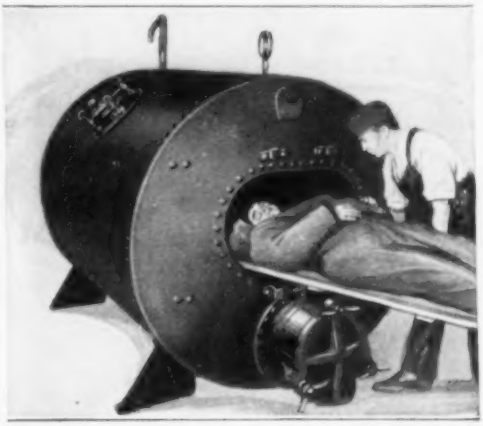
POCKET FILTER FOR CAMERA LENS IS ADJUSTABLE

For taking photographs with cloud effects, an adjustable filter that will fit almost any lens has been made. When in use, it is held in place by two small springs, fitting over the regular lens. Pictures taken through the filter require a slightly longer exposure, but give every detail of the cloud banks in the background. Sunsets on the water are also most effectively reproduced.

¶Acetylene gas, purified and mixed with oxygen, is reported to have been successfully used as an anesthetic, with results as satisfactory as those produced by either chloroform or ether. It is administered through an air-tight mask, placed over the face.

AIR CHAMBER SAVES DIVERS STRICKEN AT WORK

As a first-aid appliance to save the lives of divers stricken at their work, a large steel tank, in which they are placed, is filled with compressed air to



Diver, Overcome by Long Stay under Water, Placed in Air Chamber for Reviving

break up and drive out bubbles of gas that cause them to become paralyzed or unconscious. The pressure is started at 30 pounds and increased or decreased as the patient needs it. Even though a constant supply of air is pumped below to a diver at work, the great weight of the water and too long periods underseas frequently overcome him, making quick action necessary to prevent his death.

RUINS OF ANCIENT BABYLON YIELD WAR GOD'S TEMPLE

Traces of structures erected during an early Babylonian period that are expected to add greatly to the known history of that time and to rival in importance the discoveries in the tomb of King Tutankhamen at Luxor, Egypt, have been found in Mesopotamia by the expedition of an American museum. Already stamped bricks of Samsuiluna, seventh king of the first Babylonian dynasty (2080-2043 B. C.), have been unearthed and translated, as well as tablets inscribed during the reign of Samula-Ilu, the second king of that line (2211-2176 B. C.), and the temple built by him to the war god Ilbaba. Experts regard those preliminary finds as proof that the excavators have approached strata that conceal remains of the earliest Babylonian civilization. They expect to find many relics of historical value later.

DISHWASHER FITTED IN SINK SAVES TIME AND LABOR

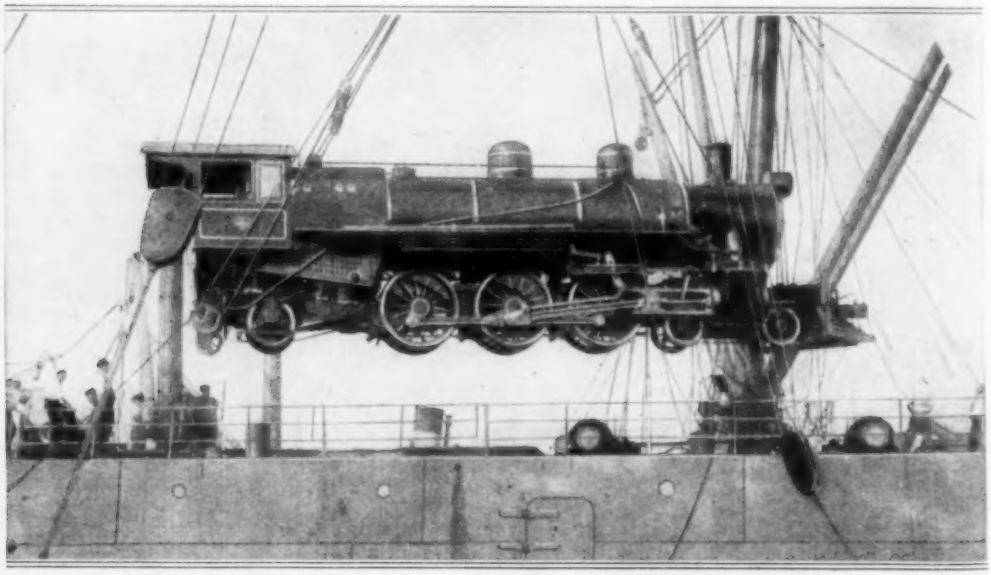
Operated by a small electric motor, a device is now being made that washes and dries dishes in five minutes or less, without the housewife putting her hands in the water. Only a slight pressure on a push button is necessary to start and stop the machine. Fitted in a basin at one end of the kitchen sink, the apparatus forces water rapidly over the dishes. After they have been rinsed by a spray of hot water, another part of the machine dries them. As all revolving parts are inclosed, it lends itself readily also to the washing of light table linens, and, because of its simple construction, it may easily be kept sanitary. One day's dishwashing for a family of six to eight persons, it is estimated, costs less than 15 cents for power for the machine. All parts that are contained within the basin may be removed when not in use, thus providing additional sink space.

No Need for Housewife to Put Hands in Water When Using This Dishwasher

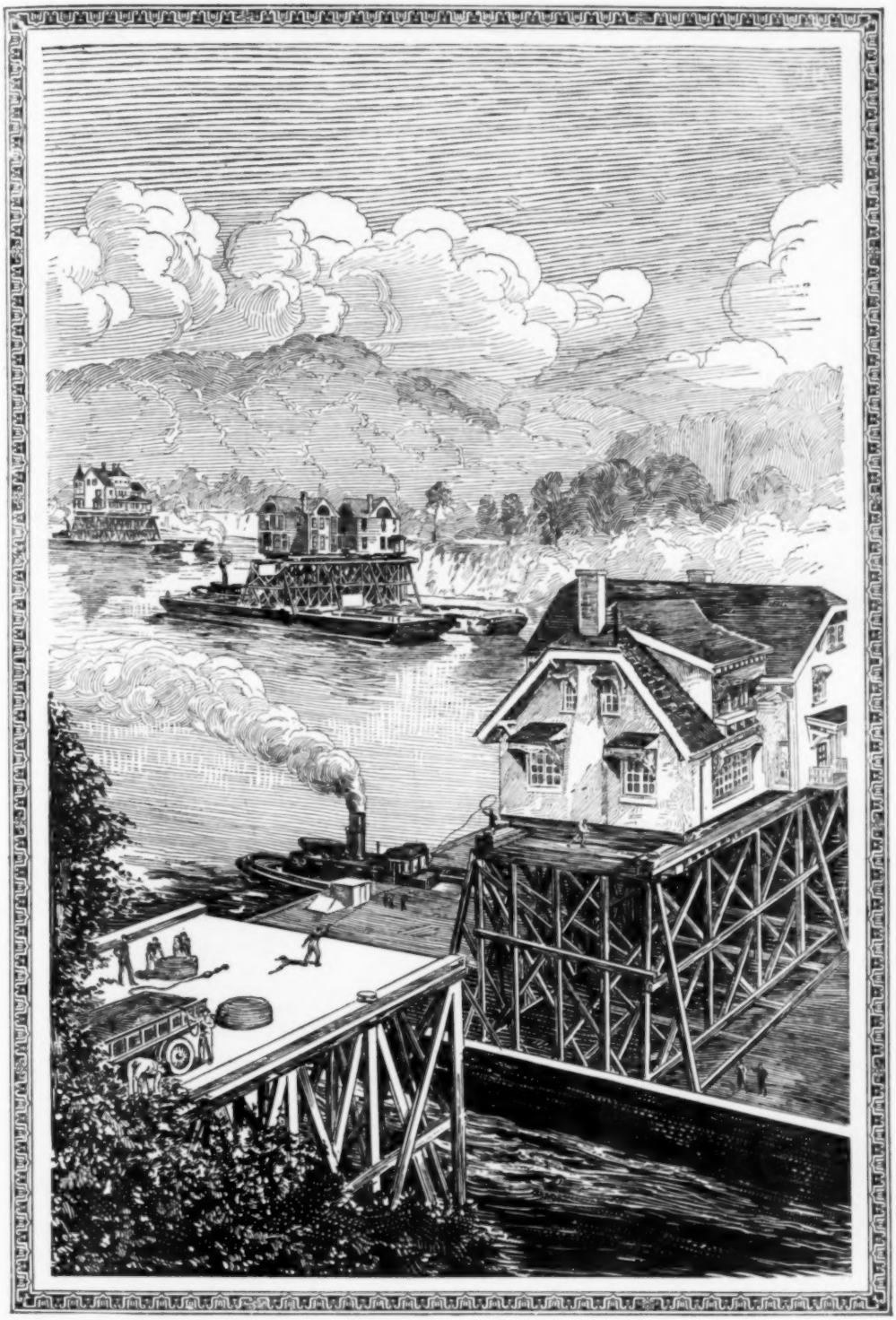
¶Sand-blast dust is being used as a covering for newly laid asphalt by highway authorities of an eastern state. It is obtained from dirt arresters in iron foundries.

LOCOMOTIVE READY TO RUN IS CARRIED ON SHIP

Because the president of a South American republic was in a hurry to receive a railroad engine being made for him in the United States, the huge locomotive was quickly put together and then, ready for the tracks and hanging from a giant crane on a scow, it was moved to the side of a ship and lifted on deck. It is said this was the first time such a big engine had been placed on board ship ready to run. Usually the engines are taken to pieces before being sent by water. So great was the weight of the engine that the scow almost sank while it was being carried to the ship.



Placing 75-Ton Engine on Ship's Deck with Crane That Carried It from Shore: Usually Locomotives are Taken Apart before being Shipped, but There Was No Time in This Case



Houses being Moved across River on Barges to Make Room for the New State Capitol at Charleston, West Virginia: They were Elevated to Avoid the Necessity of Lifting Them Up an Embankment

KNAPSACK WITH POCKETS HAS A PLACE FOR EVERYTHING

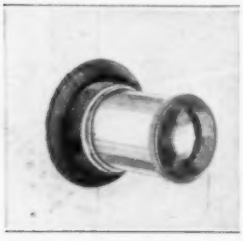
With several pockets, all of which are covered by flaps, a knapsack of waterproof material, large enough to hold all

Knapsack with Pockets to Separate Food from Clothing and with Double Straps for Back

that a camper needs for a lengthy journey, is on the market. Because the sides are made in a telescopic shape and the material is a rubberized fabric, there is no possibility of rotting, the makers say. Two straps for the back are used, the idea already having been adopted by the U. S. government for tests with mail carriers' sacks. The extra pockets provide a separate space for food.

LENS ENDS USE OF A CLOTH OVER SCREEN OF CAMERA

Held to the ground-glass screen of a camera by suction, a small pocket lens has been made, to do away with the necessity of using a cloth covering over the head when viewing the image of the picture to be taken. By applying the eye to the lens, the entire image can be seen as well as though it were viewed under the cloth usually used to cut off the light. When not in service, it may be detached and placed in the vest pocket.

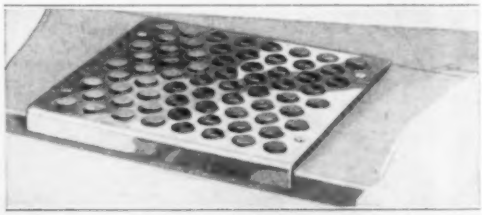


PRINTING OF ONE DOLLAR BILL TAKES MONTH AT MINT

More than $20,000,000 in greenbacks and $1,000,000 in stamps are made by the United States government every day. Such great care attends the printing of notes that 30 days are necessary to complete the processes to which one single bill—$1 or $10,000—is subjected. Although millions of dollars pass through the plant daily and are left openly on desks, not a single guard is placed over the money, nor are employes searched as they leave the building. Instead, a rigid system of accounting is enforced, the notes being counted 15 times and the stamps 10 before being sent out. Should a shortage be discovered the plate printer and those who handled the bills must replace the amount of the missing notes. Most of the greenbacks are one and two-dollar notes. The $10,000 note is the largest made, but there are only a few of them in circulation. Stamps, requiring less attention than the bills, come from the presses at the rate of 40,000,000 a day. While most of them are ones and twos, the government turns out some at $5.

MAT FOR AUTO RUNNING BOARD SECURES FOOTHOLD

To prevent slipping by those entering and leaving automobiles in wet or icy weather, is the purpose of a rubber mat

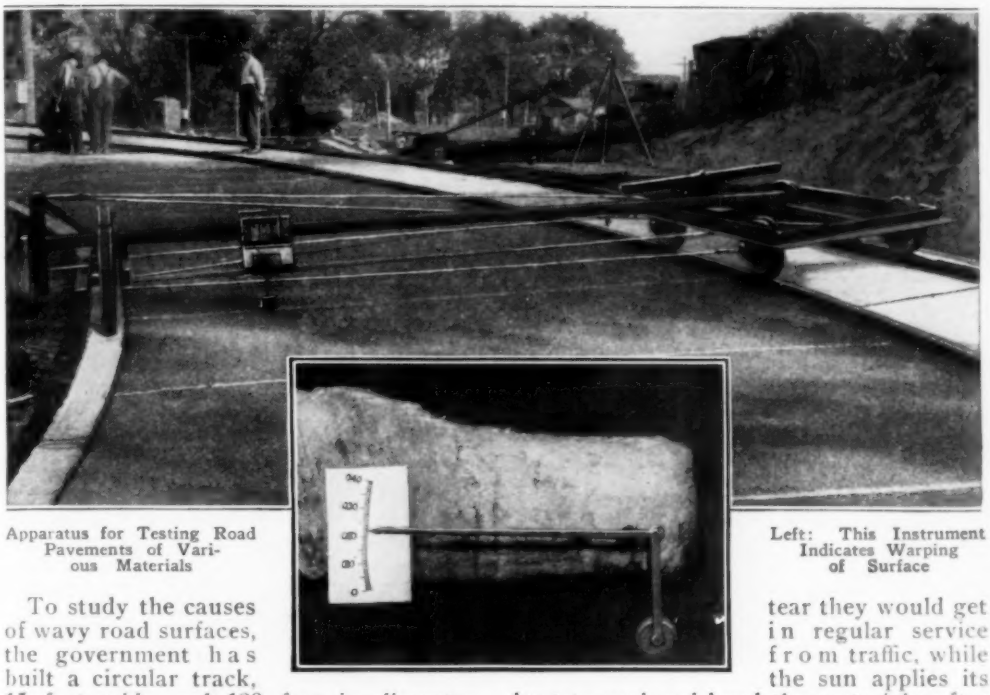


Metal-Covered Rubber Tread for Automobile Running Boards Offers Firm Grip to Step

studded with knobs protruding through holes in a polished aluminum plate which is attached to the running board by four screws. The nibs extend sufficiently above the metal to give a secure grip to the sole of the shoe, avoiding any ice or water that might gather on the surface of the plate.

¶Great interest is being displayed by physicians in a new drug, known as tryparsamid, which is claimed to have proved a cure for paresis.

SICK-ROADS CURE IS SOUGHT BY UNCLE SAM



Apparatus for Testing Road Pavements of Various Materials

Left: This Instrument Indicates Warping of Surface

To study the causes of wavy road surfaces, the government has built a circular track, 15 feet wide and 180 feet in diameter, divided into sections, each of which is paved with a different kind of tar or asphalt on a concrete foundation. An electrical device furnishes the wear and tear they would get in regular service from traffic, while the sun applies its heat to curl and bend the materials, after which a measuring machine on cables supported by wheels is passed to and fro over the surfaces to show to what extent they have sunk or risen.

WORMS DYE THEIR OWN SILK IN UNFADING COLORS

By injecting dyes into their cocoons, a French scientist is reported to have caused silkworms to spin colored threads. Not only the ordinary shades, but the tones and hues that are made from combining various tints, are produced by the little workers receiving treatment by this process. Silk is usually dyed after it has been wound and twisted into floss, but the new method is expected to grow it in colors that will not fade.

WATERLESS COOKER IS SAFE AND IMPROVES FLAVOR

Meat and vegetables may be cooked without water in an aluminum kettle now being sold. A triple bottom of steel, aluminum, and asbestos makes this possible. When the cooker is placed over a low flame, the housewife can go about her other work without fear that her foods will be scorched or burned, because they are cooked in their own juices. In this way flavor and healthful mineral salts are retained. A vent in the top allows excess steam to escape. When open, it provides a way to brown the roast, without heating up an oven.

Kettle That Cooks without Water over Low Flame, and without Attention of the Housewife

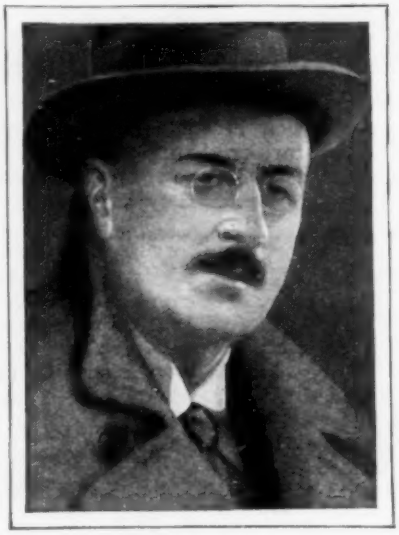
Adventures in Asiatic Paths

BY SVEN HEDIN

Sven Anders Hedin, noted authority on those little-known lands, Tibet, Turkestan, Mongolia, and central Asia in general, has spent a great part of his life—he is now 58 years of age—in exploring these strange lands. These journeys, performed at times amid extraordinary hardships and always at the immediate risk of lingering and terrible death at the hands of savages or by starvation, have won for him high honors and a world-wide reputation and fame. A noted scientist, a daring adventurer, a fluent writer—he is author of numerous valuable and weighty books. Doctor Hedin is an honorary or active member of nearly every scientific society in the world; is a member of the nobility of Sweden, to which he was raised in recognition of his work by the king; is the bearer of honorary degrees from most of the famous universities of the civilized world; is the personal friend of potentates and rulers, and is now on his way to Asia for another daring journey through the wild interior where he has found strange buried cities, grotesque and terrible customs, and where he has several times been forced to travel long distances on foot without water or food.—Editor's Note.

I HAVE traveled over 24,000 miles in Asia's beaten and unbeaten tracks, and in doing so have had adventures without number. In what follows I will tell the readers of the Popular Mechanics Magazine a few of the things I have seen and experienced in the interior of the largest continent on our globe.

I will start with my very first entrance in Asia. It was several decades ago, late in the summer. I was to drive from Vladikavkaz to Tiflis, a distance of 120 miles. I hired a strongly built Russian wagon, which is drawn by a "troika," the typical Russian three-horse team. Merrily the bells are tinkling in the bell collar worn by the middle horse, which is trotting along, hitched in between the shafts on either side. Over the horse's neck bends a wooden yoke, through the iron rings of which the reins pass. He is strapped so close to the harness that he cannot run in a gallop. But the two horses on the sides are galloping and turning their heads outward and downward, while the center horse is carrying his head high. The animals are accustomed to occupying this position, and it is a truly magnificent sight to watch a troika speeding along.



Dr. Sven Hedin

The road is level and good at first, but soon it begins to lead upward. We have reached the region of the mountains, whose dark-hued, steep walls are looming up before our eyes and hemming in our way more and more on either side. However, this road with its solidly ballasted bed and its cement rails is evidently well built. It is traversing the Caucasian province of Georgia or Grusia and is called the Grusinian military way. It cost enormous sums of money.

When the czar dedicated it he said: "I thought I should travel on a way of gold, but I see that it is nothing but gray stone."

In grotesque curves it winds around the mountain sides and passes through valleys and glens. Up it leads and then down again. In the wildest rush we may whisk down a precipice; then suddenly there comes a sharp turn to the right. We cannot see where we are going, but we have an uncomfortable feeling as if horses, carriage, and everything would be flung into the gorge below before another minute has passed. But again we spin around a corner, so abruptly that the carriage is resting on the two outer wheels. Thank goodness! We have escaped this trap, too, and we now see a stretch of the road ahead, until the zigzag course begins again.

In winter the traveling is done in sleighs, but then the road is dangerous. Many spots have an evil reputation for avalanches. Where the snowslides are wont to shoot down from the mountains, stone tunnels have been built with walls 10 feet thick. Over these the snow masses of the avalanches will glide without injuring the travelers.

As a young student I once had a merry trip from Bagdad, the city of the caliphs and of the Arabian Nights, to Kerman-

Nature's Wildest Moments are Experienced amid the Blinding Rainstorms of the Himalaya Regions. At Such Times the Frightened Caravan must be Guarded against a Stampede

shah in western Persia. I was alone and had no servant, and of the traveling fund there remained only 200 Persian "krans," or $39. I was too proud to borrow money and thought I should succeed in pulling through without anybody's aid. In the bazaars I met an Arabian caravan, which was carrying goods on to Kermanshah, 50 miles. I hired from the leaders a mule for one-fourth of all I owned.

It was early in June and the heat was intense, so the merchants traveled only at night. The tinkling of the bells had a drowsy effect, and from time to time I fell asleep while seated in the saddle. Traveling this way, of course, I could not see anything of the landscape, and the third night I succeeded in persuading an old Arab to accompany me to Kermanshah in daylight. When the merchants heard us talking about this, they would not under any condition permit us to leave the caravan, so I had to escape by stealth on the hired mule, together with the old Arab, who demanded 25 krans daily wages. One dark night, just as the moon had set, we rode slowly ahead of the caravan. After awhile we increased our speed and got away farther and farther from the others. The sound of the bells gradually died away in the distance, and we were surrounded by the stillness of the night.

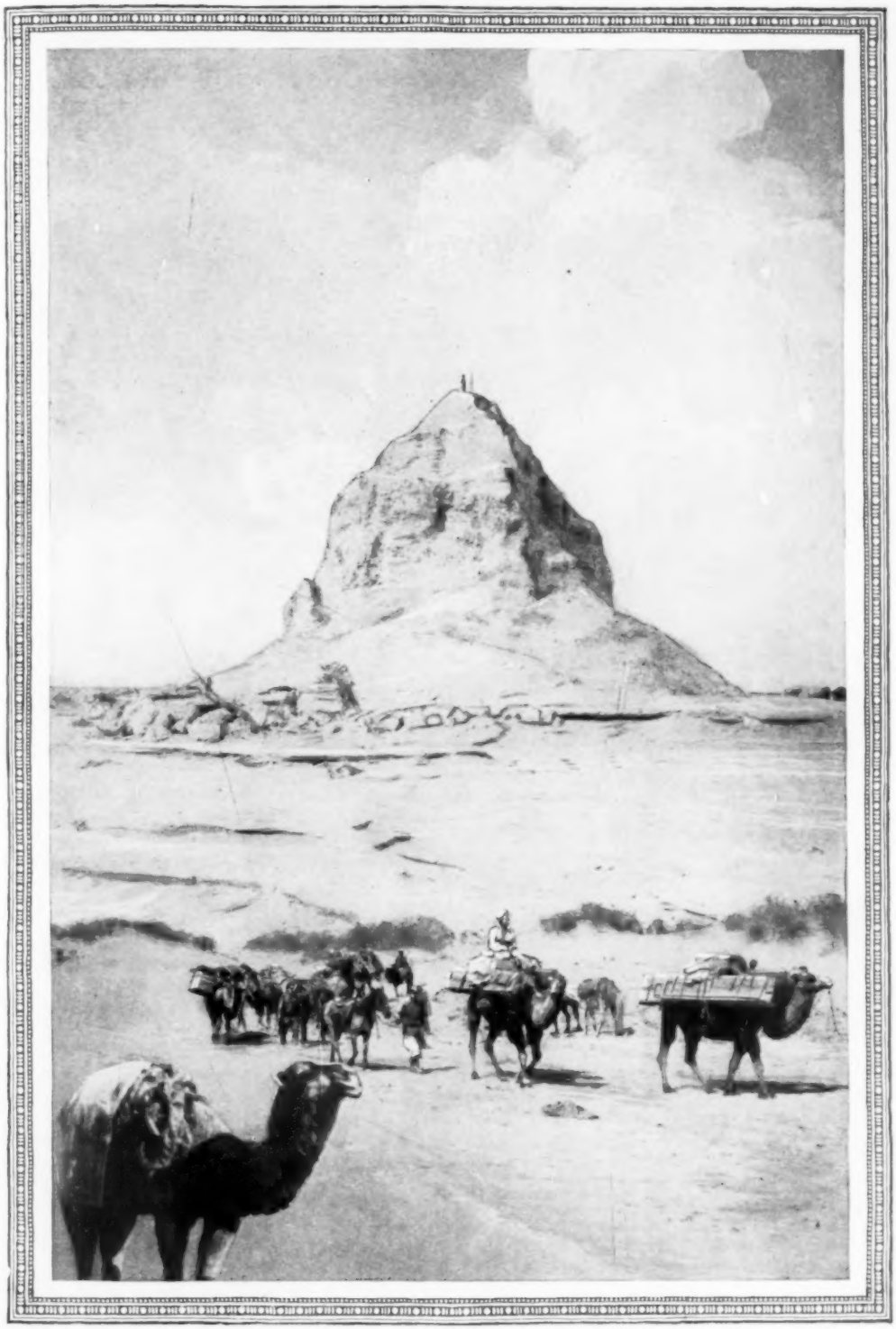
We advanced at a quick trot until we had reached such a distance that the others could no longer overtake us. There we reposed until the morning; then we resumed our journey, following the path of the large caravans. From time to time, itinerant company is sighted, most of them being pilgrims, partly living and partly dead. They are all on their way to Husein's grave at Kerbela, not far from Babylon. The men are riding on horseback, the women are sitting in wooden baskets, two of which are always carried by one camel or mule. In such a basket, called "kajeveh," the woman is squatting with crossed legs on soft cushions. She has a roof of white cloth over her head, which is upheld by arched laths, and in front of her are curtains so that she can at her option hide herself from curious looks. Women of rank make use of litters called "takterevan," which are borne by two mules. This style of journeying is more comfortable; the lady can lie down to sleep while the mules are traveling.

And then the dead persons that are carried to Kerbela! Wealthy Persians often set aside a certain amount of money in their wills to have a grave bought near the Holy Mosque in Kerbela, under the dome of which the martyr Husein is resting. Another sum is allotted for transporting the body. When the rich man has died, his body is wrapped in white rugs with tightly fastened cords, and around everything dark-colored blankets are wrapped, which in turn are kept closed as securely as is possible with the aid of strings and cords. But as it is more convenient and less expensive to place two bodies on each mule, the deceased must wait until a comrade can be found for this last journey. It may even happen at times that an entire caravan of bodies is accumulated to be conveyed together to the "Holy City." I have met several such funeral caravans in Persia. If the wind comes from the direction in which they are approaching, a frightful odor will announce them even from quite a distance.

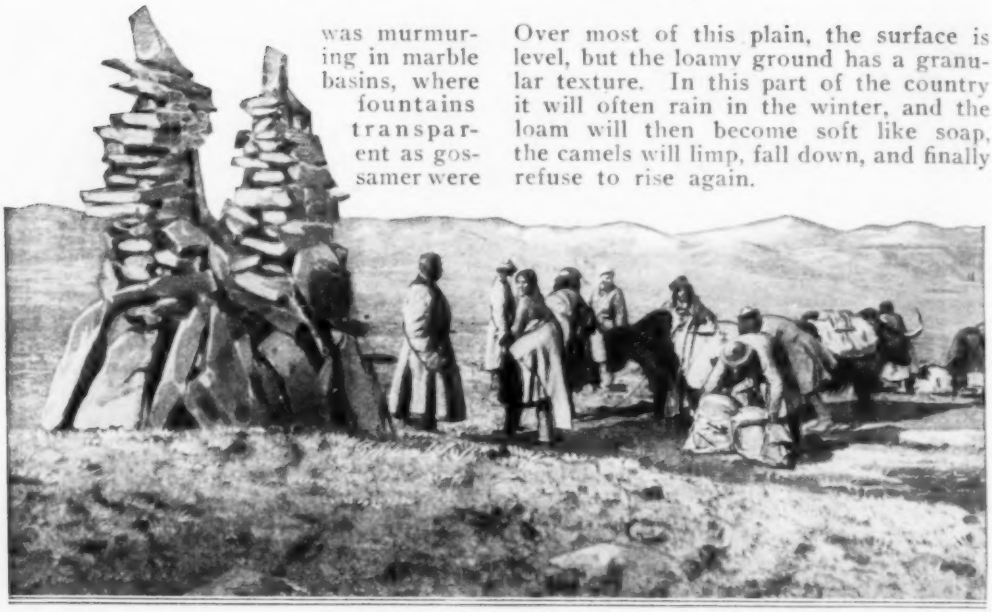
Another smell to which it is necessary to become accustomed when traveling on Persian roads is the one which is spread far around by rotting carcasses of camels, horses, or mules.

In the meantime I continued with my Arab the journey to Kermanshah. After I had paid him for the mule I did not have so much as a copper coin left in my pocket. In the small town not a soul was European, and I had hundreds of miles to cover before I could reach the nearest place where lived any persons from my country.

However, I had heard of a wealthy Arabian merchant by the name of Aga Muhamed Hassan, a resident of Kermanshah, who was doing business over all the Near East. I directed my steps to his house and was admitted in the large room where he was sitting on precious rugs and casting up his accounts with his assistants. It was not easy to make clear to him where Sweden was situated, but when I said that I was from the country of Charles XII, Aga Hassan's face brightened and he said: "Then you must stay as my guest for six months." I thanked him for his kindness, but explained to him that I had to continue my journey, after having rested for a few days. A magnificent house in genuine Persian style was placed at my disposition; I was given two gentlemen attendants and two servants who were constantly sitting to wait for my orders. I was offered the finest Persian dishes of rice and chicken, grapes and melons, wine and tea, and at night I slept in a charming garden, where limpid water



Camel Train Passing an Old Signal Tower That Once Warned Peaceful Caravans of the Presence of Fierce Desert Tribes Infesting the Barren Wastes of Central Asia



Yaks, Animals Resembling the Buffalo, Transport the Heavy Burdens of the Tibetan Traveler across the Mountainous Countries of Central Asia. Rude Rock Cairns Mark the Way

was murmuring in marble basins, where fountains transparent as gossamer were playing in the moonlight, and where roses and lilacs were luxuriously spreading their fragrance. In the stable there stood precious Arabian thoroughbred horses, ready to carry me to the villages and antiquities I wished to visit.

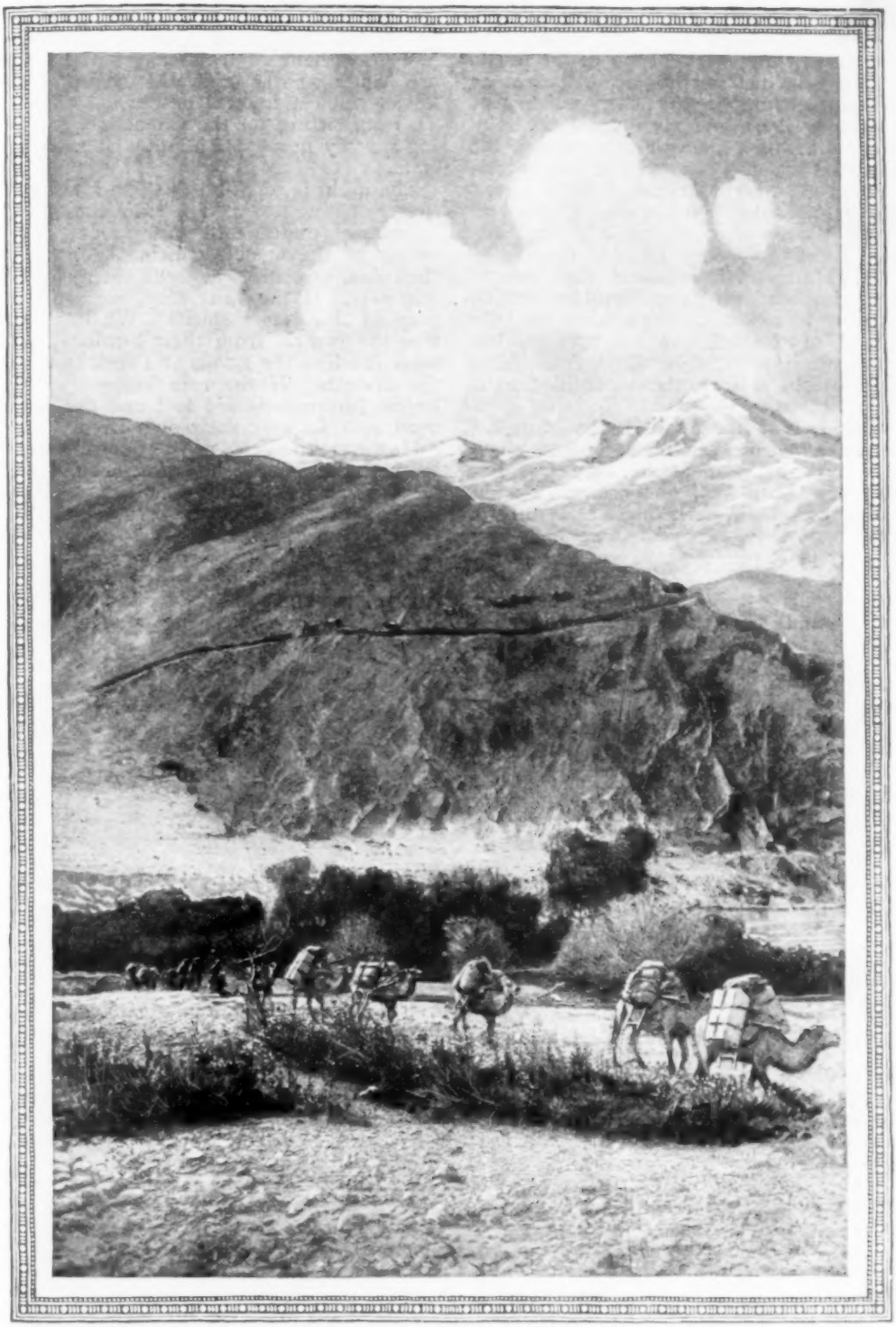
But I had no money! I was a beggar, a tramp and had all the trouble in the world to keep up the appearance of a gentleman as long as possible. This masquerade could last only so long. One day the truth would surely become known. So I made a virtue of necessity and told one of my gentlemen attendants that I did not own one cent.

He was taken aback for a moment, but then he answered: "Money! You may have as much of it from Aga Hassan as you wish," and when the hour of parting came, he presented me with a pouch full of silver coins, which I carried stuffed into my saddle bag, as I, on a newly hired horse, continued my journey both day and night towards Teheran, the capital city of Persia. In this way I once covered as much as 90 miles in one day, which is the speediest ride on horseback I have ever made; this became possible only by changing horses five times.

In 1906 I traveled 1,400 miles on a Bactrian camel through all of eastern Persia to the border of Baluchistan. I had bought 14 camels and had six Persian servants. In the easterly part of the country there is a vast desert, called Kevir, which consists of salt and loam. Over most of this plain, the surface is level, but the loamy ground has a granular texture. In this part of the country it will often rain in the winter, and the loam will then become soft like soap, the camels will limp, fall down, and finally refuse to rise again.

Many caravans have perished in this way. Notwithstanding this danger, I ventured upon crossing Kevir. I had with me two men and four camels. Just as we were about to start from the southern edge, it began to rain, so we had to wait. The loam dried only slowly. A caravan of merchants came along, and we decided to continue in the trail trodden out by its camels. The distance across the desert is 84 miles. When the expedition has been started, it is necessary to proceed without camping until the northerly edge has been reached. In all this malicious tract there is no shrub, no grassblade.

We had covered far over one-half of the road when the sky darkened again, and presently it started once more to rain. We speeded the camels and their bells sounded briskly—almost like a churchbell sounding the fire alarm. No path was to be seen; what faint trace of it may have existed for a brief while was quickly blotted out by the next shower, and then tramped up again by the next caravan. It was drawing toward evening. The sky was clear only in the west. The sun was just setting; it glowed like a cannon ball. The entire western horizon was burning red, as if a steppe fire were raging, and the fiery gleam was reflected by the barren, level ground. The long lines of camels of the merchant caravan proceeded solemnly; laden with their bales of merchandise



Crossing a Valley of the Himalayas: On the Mountain Side is a Caravan of Yaks, Beasts That Scorn Roads, Preferring to Travel among Rocks of Jagged Steepnesses

they offered a fantastic sight. Their red outlines presented a striking contrast to the threatening background in the north.

We hastened northward so as not to remain sticking in the loam, which was softening more and more from the rain. According to a Persian superstition, the desert is the mansion place of evil spirits. Whoever remains behind, falls a victim to these fiends. Such a one listens and hears the tinkling of the bells, but believes that it comes from the opposite side. He turns there and is lured farther and farther into the desolate tracts, drawn irresistibly onward, with the sound of the bells in his ears all the time, until at last he falls dead from exhaustion, amidst the scornful laughter of the ghouls.

But I, too, was about to be inveigled by such a specter: black-winged sleep was fluttering around me, as I was sitting benumbed, half unconscious, on my riding camel. What a night! Would it never come to an end? The bells are ringing as if they wanted to announce a morning service, and still no dawn.

The rain continues splashing against the ground. The gait of the camels becomes more limping. Thump! There one of them is lying in the mire; he must be raised. But soon another one falls. We urge them on frantically. The bells are ringing with a weird sound, like knells when a funeral procession passes. To keep sitting on the camel is too trying for my nerves; I alight and start to walk.

The night is pitch-black. The rain continues coming down. The loam continues loosening underneath our feet. The treads of the camels continue sounding their dull measure, the bells their rhythmic play. If the bells stop, we are the prey of the desert spirits. We have to free the camels from their burdens; we must sacrifice the goods and seek to save the animals. If the rain keeps up any longer, the camels are lost and the men must seek to save their own lives.

However, the genii of the desert relent. With the night still hovering around us, the caravan stops all of a sudden. "What has happened?" I asked. "We are at the Devil's Gutter," answers a voice in the darkness. We stumble over a bed filled with salt water. On its other side, tamarisk is growing and the ground consists of sand. The camels no longer limp. We are saved.

JUNGLE REVEALS BURIED CITY LARGER THAN OLD ROME

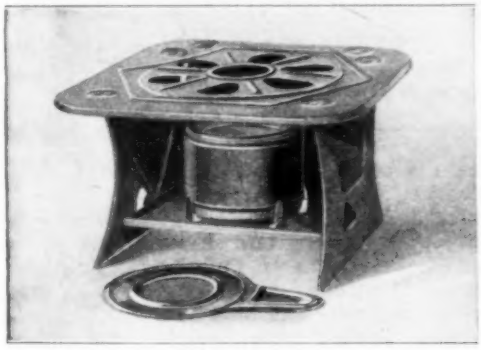
Buried for years in the jungle fastness of the island of Ceylon in the Indian Ocean, an ancient city, a contemporary of Rome but much greater in extent, has been unearthed by explorers. The founding of Anuradhapura, as the royal city was called, was in 437 B. C., according to decipherable characters that cover some of the ruins, and its desertion took place late in the ninth century, about 1,200 years later. Excavations have revealed that the splendid structures of the city proper covered many square miles, although its actual boundaries have not yet been reclaimed from the jungle. Throughout the parklike domain, now the feeding ground for hundreds of cattle, were found remnants of the culture of the period—marble bathing pools, towering monuments, and thousands of fallen columns, hand-hewn and hand-placed, that once supported canopies and upper floors. Some still rest on wide marble platforms. One of the interesting features of that vanished civilization is the "dagoba," a memorial structure, evidently inspired by the worship of some religion. Four of those rival present-day skyscrapers in height. One, probably the highest, towers an estimated 280 feet in the air from a base 252 feet in diameter.

SAND NEEDED FOR GLASS MINED WITH WATER

Hydraulic mining for sands used in glassmaking has almost entirely replaced hand labor. Manufacturers of glass require hard sands usually found in rocky hills and cliffs. Along the Mississippi River banks in Iowa, the diggers direct streams of water at the rate of 1,200 gallons a minute against the stony ledges, washing them away and carrying the sand into settling tanks where it quickly passes to the bottom. The water is then drained off, and the sand dropped into large bins for shipment.

TINY FOLDING STOVE HEATED WITH CANNED ALCOHOL

About 6 inches square and, when folded, almost flat, a small stove is being made for camping, motoring, and yachting, as well as for use in the dining room, kitchen, bedroom, nursery, or porch of the home. Small cans of denatured alcohol furnish the heat. To shut off the flame a metal plate is placed over the top of the can. For quickly heating the baby's milk, water for shaving, almost any kind of cooking, the stove can be set up anywhere. It is light and also inexpensive.



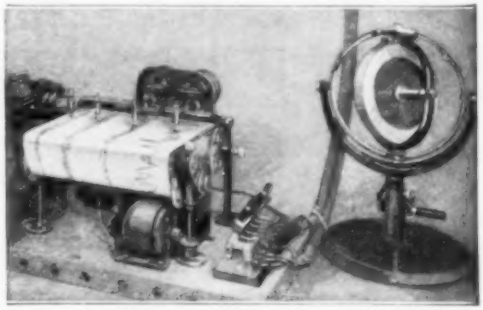
Small Folding Stove, That Uses Canned Alcohol for Heat, Handy at Home or in Camp

RADIO MESSAGE SAVES SHIP

Stranded for eight days on an island in the Mediterranean, a steamship was dragged out of the sands by vessels responding to a distress message sent out by an amateur radio operator. The vessel was on its way to Constantinople, when it ran aground.

WAY SHIP BEHAVES AT SEA STUDIED BY MACHINE

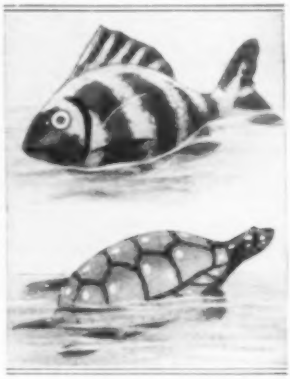
Every roll, pitch, rudder movement, course steered, and the time made by a ship at sea, are automatically recorded by a recently invented machine. This will enable marine architects to study a vessel's behavior under all conditions and to better designs of hulls and rudders. In a test over a 6,000-mile course, a complete log of a big freighter's action was kept. Electrically operated devices set down the rudder movements. The roll and pitch recorders depend on the operation of a gyroscope that maintains its position regardless of the movement of the ship. All of the records are made on rolls of paper moving over drums under a moving pencil.



How Every Movement of a Ship at Sea is Recorded by Moving Pencils on Rolls of Paper

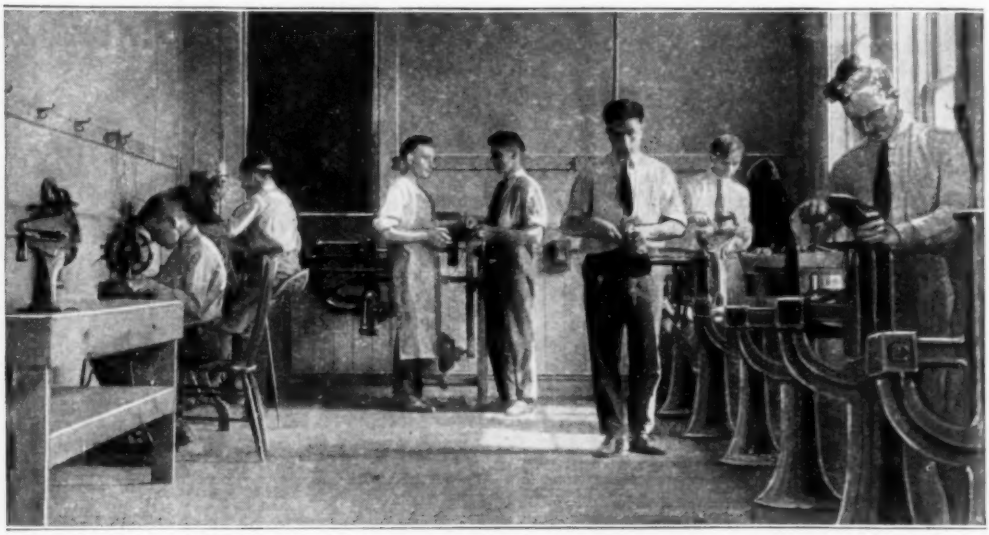
AIR-FILLED RUBBER TOYS FLOAT AND KEEP NEW

Gaily painted toy fish, turtles, frogs, ducks, clowns, and dolls are being made of rubber so they can be blown up to any size desired. As they float in the water, they can be used at the beach, in the bathtub, or about the house. The size can be changed by blowing more air into them, providing an almost endless fascination for the children. When deflated, many may be carried in the pocket or handbag.



BLIND TAUGHT TO FIX SHOES ON MACHINES

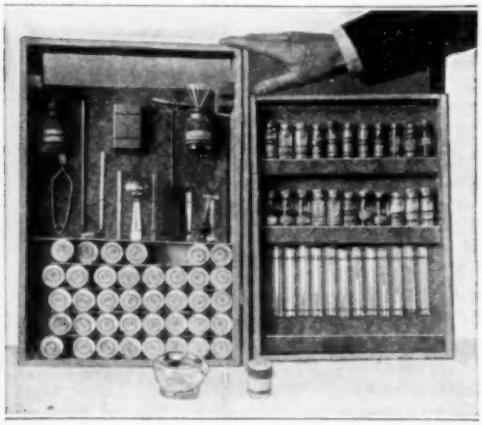
For teaching blind men shoe repairing, a training school equipped with modern electrical machinery has been established by one of the state institutions. After the students have completed the course, which takes about three months, and can turn out a good quality of work, they are permitted to go into business for themselves, or enter the employ of other shoe repairers. The instructor, who is blind, teaches his pupils to operate the various machines used in the work.



Teaching Operation of Modern Shoe-Repairing Machinery to Blind Students in Vocational Training

WHOLE LABORATORY IN BOX FOR AMATEUR CHEMIST

Playthings having a practical value are in demand by young people, who want to do the things that interest grown-ups. A train of toy cars must have its own motor to haul it on metal rails, charged with electric current, wood-blocks for toy houses have given way to steel girders and beams that erect small bridges and buildings. Youthful students of chemistry may now look into its secrets with the help of a small chemical set having retort, pestle, glass tubes, and vials of salts and acids for mixing into gases and liquids, that change form and color as their different parts are added. Knowledge as well as pastime is assured the young amateur possessing it.



Both Study and Amusement are Offered Young Students by This Chemical Laboratory Set

FLOOD OF BOGUS ANTIQUES BROUGHT FROM EUROPE

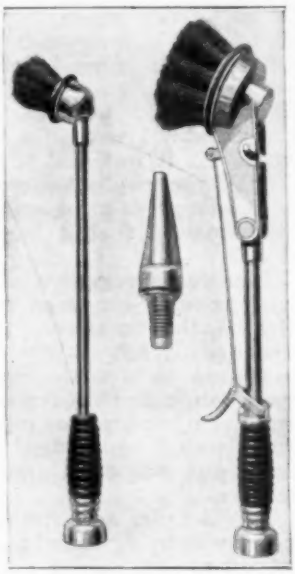
For years past museums and art collectors have been made victims of clever imitations of valuable antiques, sometimes made by modern workmen plying their trades within short distances from where the articles are put up for sale, according to the testimony in a trial in the East recently. Old-style furniture, patterned after that in use two or three centuries ago, is given appearance of genuineness by having its surface treated with chemicals to create the color of age.

PACIFIC'S BOTTOM IS CHARTED BY TIMING SOUND WAVES

Charting the bottom of the Pacific ocean between United States and Australia is the task of a navy cruiser using a delicate apparatus to measure the time required for sound to pass from the surface of the water to the ocean's bed and return. Records are taken every five miles while the boat is moving. Knowing the speed of sound through water and the time elapsing between sending and returning of a signal serves to compute the depth.

CAR WASHER FITTED TO HOSE REGULATED BY TRIGGER

Attached to an ordinary garden hose like a nozzle, a device has been made for washing automobiles and other machines that ejects either a spray or jet of water through a heavy bristle brush. Without screws or bolts, the force of the water is controlled by a trigger fixed to the forepart of a ribbed handle. By pressing halfway down on it, the stream is forced through the cup-shaped top of the apparatus and changed into a fine spray for washing windows. Another attachment throws a 50-foot stream that cleans mud from the wheels.

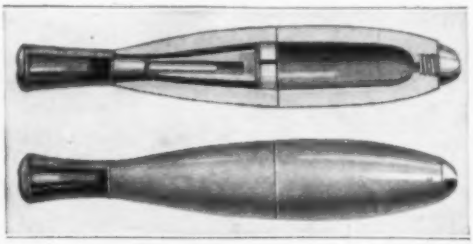


RARE BIRD'S PICTURE TAKEN

What is considered to be the first photograph of the Kirtland warbler, acknowledged by scientists to be one of the rarest birds in North America, was obtained recently in northern Michigan, the only spot in the world where the bird is known to nest. It summers and winters on the Bahama Islands. Only one nest is reported to have been seen before by naturalists.

PIPE SHAPED LIKE A CIGAR FOR OUTDOOR SMOKING

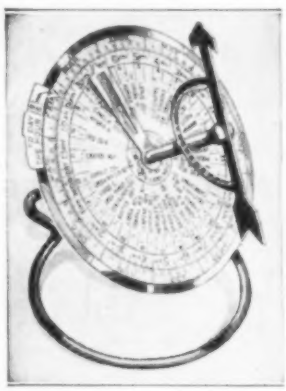
Made in the shape of a cigar, a pipe has been designed for motorists, golfers, and sportsmen. Tobacco is placed in a bowl, where it is protected from the wind and rain. It may be lighted and kept going even in a strong gale. As it is separated into several pieces, it is quickly taken apart for cleaning. The mouthpiece is of amber, but the pipe resembles a cigar both in shape and color, although it is long enough to assure a cool smoke. Lacking the curve of an ordinary pipe, it is easily carried in the pocket.



Pipe Shaped Like Cigar to Protect Tobacco from Wind and Rain

STAR FINDER TRACES COURSE OF FAR-OFF PLANETS

Costly telescopes and other expensive devices are made unnecessary for the amateur student of astronomy by the use of a constellation finder having an arrow mounted over a circular chart to locate star groups seen with ordinary field glasses. A slide, with an opening through which readings are visible, is moved around an upright dial, printed with the names of the planets, to the day and hour, at the same time turning the arrow to point into the midst of the group shown by the chart. The pointer also shows the actual paths taken by the planets in their journeys across the sky. After a little study and practice, any star can be easily found and followed.



Twenty Years Ago in Popular Mechanics

"Comforts" of Ocean Travel in 1902

"The modern steamship of today offers about every convenience and accommodation that it is possible to provide. On the finest of these vessels the passengers have the freedom of the immense decks that cover the entire vessel. Cabins and smoking rooms are thoroughly well lighted."

Comment of Two Decades Ago

TWENTY years ago, according to the files of Popular Mechanics, engineers were discussing the possibility of joining the Atlantic and Pacific oceans with a canal in either Panama or Nicaragua.

Nine days were required then by the fastest liners to make the voyage from New York to London that now takes considerably less than a week. Of these old boats, it was said that, "It seems as though the modern steamship of today offers about every convenience and accommodation that it is possible to provide."

That ocean vessels would be built with fast passenger elevators, swimming pools, tiled baths, massive, pillared dining rooms, daily newspapers, was never even conceived as a possibility in 1903. That opera music and concerts by notable artists given hundreds of miles away on the shore would be enjoyed by ocean travelers, was not even dreamed of by inventors.

Two decades ago, the discovery of the X-ray was being hailed as the latest marvel of science, electric headlights were being tried on some of the fastest railway express trains. The 100th birthday of the first locomotive was being observed in all parts of the country. Chicago began the use of its first subway, the tube being 100 miles long and designed for freight only.

Forecasting the coming triumph of the radio, Swedish engineers announced that they had succeeded in sending wireless messages for a distance of 28 miles, and a Belgian inventor exhibited a device designed to transmit the picture of the person talking over a telephone wire.

The possibility of telephoning without wires was considered but idle speculation.

Former "Queen of the Desert"

"Umbrella Sail" Used in 1903

Contrasted with the Luxuries of Today

"Radio concerts, daily newspapers, banks, Pompeian swimming pools, sumptuous libraries, luxurious dining rooms, fast elevators, tiled baths, comfortable cabins, vast expanses of promenades, hot and cold running water, and all the conveniences of a first-class hotel or club."

What Liners Now Offer

Dining Room on Ocean Liner

AS a graphic example of the increase in speed and safety of travel during the past 20 years, a trip around the world in 1902 required 54 days.

Just a few years before, however, Jules Verne had written of what was then considered an impossible feat, "Around the World in Eighty Days." Just recently this trip has been made in 34 days, and this time is expected to be further reduced with the growing use of airplanes.

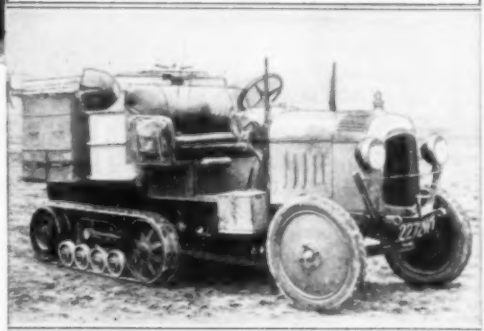
With the automobile in its infancy two decades ago, a queer craft running on wheels and propelled by sails was built to "skim the lifeless sands of the dreaded Mohave Desert." It was declared to be capable of carrying several persons at a speed of from 50 to 80 miles an hour, and plans were made for it to supplant the camels used in the great Sahara.

With the coming of the tractor, this strange ship on wheels has been forgotten, its place being taken by an automobile attached to a so-called endless tread.

Another strange craft was the boat fitted with an umbrella, or cyclone, sail. This was expected to increase the speed and to remove the danger of capsizing as the wind pressure did not tend to tilt the craft.

Although the device attracted wide attention at the time, it also has been forgotten with the coming of the fast motorboats, many of which have run at a speed of more than 60 miles an hour.

And yet within the memory of men now alive it took longer to go from Kansas City to San Francisco than it does now to encircle the globe. During the days of the prairie schooners in '49, this journey took over three months, while recently an airplane flew from New York to San Diego in 24 hours.



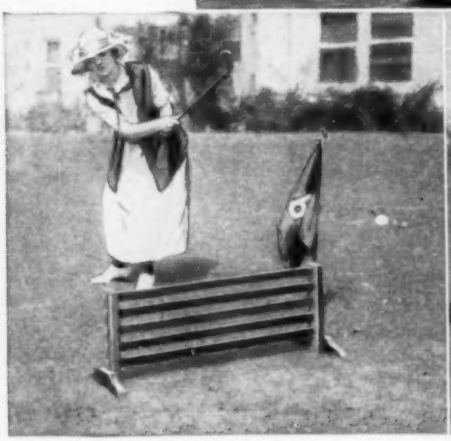
Tractor for Desert Travel

Type of Modern Speed Boat

THRILLS OF OBSTACLE GOLF RIVAL REAL GAME

Playing obstacle golf on the lawns offers all of the delicate problems of ordinary games with more hazards and less driving. The plays have no limit of variety, as more difficult obstructions than the usual courses are equipped with can be built into spaces of smaller area.

Balls similar to those now used on the regular green are driven to the obstacle by lightweight clubs, and there, lifted, or knocked, to carry them above a hurdle or through a keg having no bottom. Small bridges may be built over pools for the players.



FUTURIST ART GIVES WEIRD EFFECT TO BUILDING

Twisting walls, six stories high, lend a fantastic appearance to an apartment building in Europe. Bulging outward at each floor, the sides of the building serve as a sun shield for the windows below and also keep off the rain. The roof is covered with tiles of various colors. This unusual style of architecture is called "Catalonian." It is used somewhat in southern Europe.

Fantastically Designed Apartment Dwelling, the Sloping, Twisting Walls of Which Serve to Protect the Windows from Sun and Rain While Many-Hued Roof Tiles Add to the Weird Effect

LIONS TAMED BY ELECTRICITY INSTEAD OF WITH WHIP

As a more effective means of training lions that eventually perform in the rings of a circus, lion tamers are reported to favor an electrically charged wire instead of the whip. When a beast has just begun its education, it often attempts to attack the instructor when his back is turned. Formerly the trainer's security was in keeping a sharp watch over his shoulder and striking out with the heavy piece of leather when the animal jumped at him. But now a charged wire is stretched across the cage, and when the beast touches it, it receives a lesson that leaves a deeper impression than a blow.

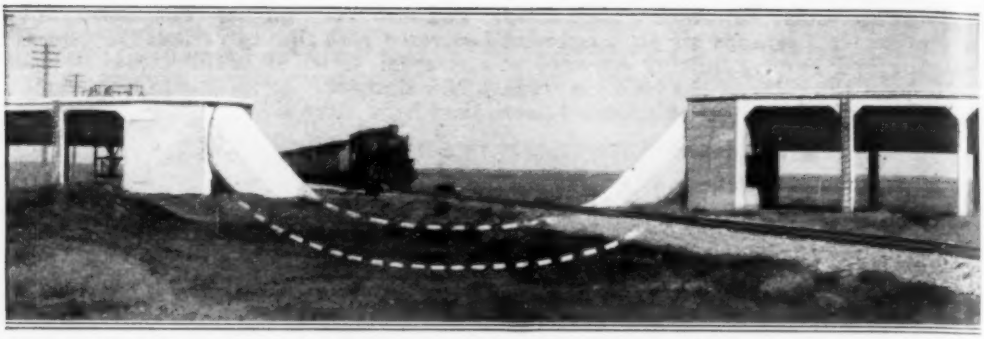
FIRE MAKES COTTON SPROUT MORE THAN INCH A DAY

How plants will grow even in seemingly hopeless spots was recently demonstrated when fire partly destroyed an eastern warehouse in which 200 bales of cotton were stored. Heat from the flames replaced that of the sun and instead of rain there was water from the fire hose. For a week the blaze smouldered, and during that time firemen continuously played a stream of water over the debris. Then 50 bales burst their strong bonds and, from the seeds contained in them, plants

Fire Duplicates Feat of Nature in Causing Plants to Sprout from Bales of Cotton

sprouted. Within three days, they reached a height of more than 3 inches.

SIPHON CARRIES WATER UNDER RAILWAY TRACKS

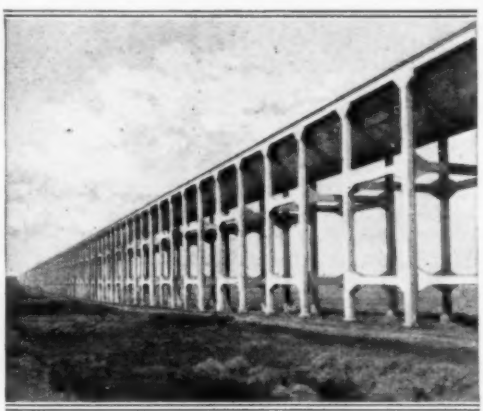


Inverted Siphon, Connecting Opposite Ends of Flume, Carries Water beneath Railroad Tracks, as Height of Curved Shell did Not Provide Sufficient Clearance for Crossing above Ground

To irrigate hundreds of thousands of acres of land in the West, water is being brought for 2 miles over a reinforced-concrete trestle, 60 feet high.

At one point, the rushing torrent is carried down into the ground through a siphon to enable it to cross the tracks of a railway at a speed of 12 cubic feet per second.

Hailed as a remarkable feat of engineering, the aqueduct is a curved shell suspended between heavy girders. Twisting like a huge snake across the landscape, it suddenly vanishes into the earth only to reappear on the other side of the tracks. Here, tapered ends at the inlet and outlet of the tube give an increased velocity to the flow with but a slight total loss of "head." There was no interruption of traffic while the flume was being constructed. In building the aqueduct approximately 25,000 cubic yards of concrete and 4,000,000 pounds of reinforcing steel were used at a total cost of 650,000 dollars.



Huge Aqueduct of Irrigation Project, Supported by Concrete Trestle across Surface of Two-Mile Wide Valley

It carries water from Lake Newell across a valley between the Bow and Red Deer rivers to the Bassano irrigation project east of Calgary, Canada.

SILVER FOXES BRED ON RANCH TO OBTAIN RICH FURS

Because of the killing of fur-bearing animals, a silver-fox ranch has been established on Long Island within sight of New York City. In a five-acre inclosure, rigidly guarded, are kept 100 pairs of the beautiful animals. A number of their offspring are marketed yearly. Some are sold for breeding purposes while others are killed, painlessly, for their pelts. Protected from the dangers of life in the open and carefully attended, the animals develop furs of better quality, it is said. Mother foxes, often nervous in captivity, frequently disown their young and then their places are taken by cats, but dogs rarely seem willing to "mother" young foxes. The industry has grown to such an extent that most of the skins that now find their way to market come from ranches that are scattered all over the United States. While the average prices paid for skins last season ranged from $150 to $370, a single fox for breeding purposes, with a fine pedigree, sometimes sells for as much as $2,000.

¶ Energy equal to the muscle work of 5,400,000 men employed in three eight-hour shifts, it is claimed, will be generated by a steam turbine now being made by an American firm.

GOLDEN COLD-LIGHT FILTER MAKES MOVIES SAFE

Coated with pure gold, a filter has been made that removes 90 per cent of the heat from light rays used in projecting motion pictures, thus eliminating the danger of fire when the machine slows down or suddenly stops. By its use it is possible to halt the unwinding of a highly inflammable film and throw "still" pictures on the screen. The device consists of two small glass disks, with the gold-sprayed sides cemented together, thus making a single lens. Fitted above the projection aperture while a reel is being run off, it automatically drops into place when the machine loses speed or halts. While it reflects objects as readily as an ordinary mirror, it is transparent when held to the light. Rays filtered through it have a slight greenish cast, but not sufficient to blot out the picture. For years scientists have been searching for a means to take heat from light rays.

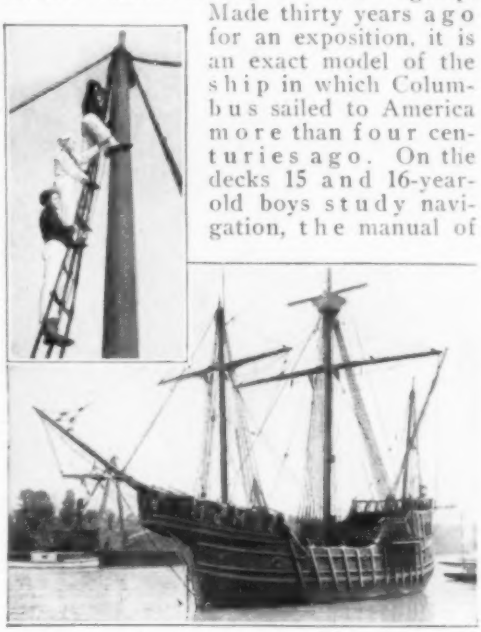
DIAL TELLS HOW HOT IT IS WITHOUT MERCURY

Without the aid of mercury, a recently devised thermometer works from a coiled metal spring expanding and contracting under changes of temperature, revolving a dial horizontally behind a pointer. The scale, printed in large figures, may be seen at a considerable distance, making a convenient article for desks or walls. Ornamental designs are used to meet various requirements.

¶ To make pictures of wood in a catalog more realistic, publishers in a middle-western city have printed them with varnish, giving the exact coloring of various stains and shellacs advertised.

SEA SCOUTS USE COLUMBUS CARAVEL FOR TRAINING

Sea scouts of a middle-western city are using a reproduction of the old Columbus caravel "Santa Maria," as their flagship. Made thirty years ago for an exposition, it is an exact model of the ship in which Columbus sailed to America more than four centuries ago. On the decks 15 and 16-year-old boys study navigation, the manual of arms, seamanship, and other subjects in the sea-scout program. The old caravel is a picturesque contrast to the modern motorboats and yachts that surround it. Its rigging is kept in repair for practice exercises during the scouts' drills.



Replica of Ship in Which Columbus Discovered America, That is Now Used for Training Sea Scouts

ROMANS PADDLE INDIAN CANOE ON THE HISTORIC TIBER

From the streams and lakes of the North American continent, which it has plied for centuries, the American Indian canoe has recently found its way to the waters of the historic Tiber of Italy. Within recent months canoeing has become a favorite sport of the Romans, and on Sunday many of the frail craft, guided by the descendants of the founders of Rome, mingle with power boats, sculls, shells, and skiffs that crowd the yellow waters of the river. Although the Italians as yet have not attained the perfection of the Indian in handling the canoe, the demand for it has become so great that a factory near Rome is turning them out by the scores, using a dozen American-made conveyances as models.

SPIRITS OF DEPARTED SPEEDED WITH WEIRD RITES

ONE of the most interesting subjects afforded a traveler in many lands off the beaten path of civilization is the various ways in which primitive people honor the spirits of the departed.

COPYRIGHT, FRANCIS DICKIE

Resurrected after One Year, This Native's Remains Repose Aloft near His Old Home

Tribes living within a few miles of each other are often found to have practices totally at variance, while races separated by thousands of miles do things almost in the same way.

Among the Eskimos, when a man dies he is wrapped in his best furs and laid upon the tundra or prairie at some selected spot. Then a cairn of stones is built over him. Upon this is placed all the cooking utensils, weapons, and the boat he used in life.

For three days after death, the spirit is supposed still to remain within the body. During this time the deceased's nearest relative, usually his eldest son, comes for a short time each day and talks to the spirit to keep it from getting lonely. A tall pole is also erected over the grave from the end of which blow in the breeze bits of cloth, skin, or moss that keep away evil spirits. At the end of the third day all the dead man's possessions may be sold to white men or Indians, if such be in the vicinity, but on no account to other Eskimos.

In North Borneo, the dead are buried in the earth. Over each grave is erected a substantial and neat little house in which are placed the possessions of the deceased, particularly clothes, as the Dusans believe the other world to be on top of a near-by high mountain where it is cold. Until recently these people made human sacrifices of slaves at times when living relations wished to send a message of importance to a dear departed, the soul of the slave supposedly carrying the message. Missionaries are now trying to stop this practice.

In another part of Borneo, the bones of the dead are taken up after about a year and are carefully laid beside the things the deceased most cherished in life. The gathered whole is then placed in a beautiful little house, six by four feet in size, which is a mass of very fine carving. The house is then reared high in the air on the top of a stout pole which is made firmly fast in the ground near the dead man's home.

Although separated by thousands of miles, the Dusans and the Eskimos still bury their dead somewhat in the same manner, while the Dusans and the Stapans, living near each other on the same island, have not one thing in common in their burial custom.

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Natives of a Borneo Tribe Protect Graves with Houses Containing Articles of Clothing

FOREST OF FOSSIL TREES MILLION YEARS OLD

What is regarded as the earliest recorded fossil forest has been unearthed in New York State. Experts estimate that it is about 300,000,000 years old, and that it belongs to the Devonian period. Already 40 of the stone-tree butts removed from the excavation have been placed in the state's museum. Stumps were found in the rocks at two levels, one 60 feet above the other. Only a short distance below the lower forest, the rocks are said to bear true marine fossils. Authorities now believe that the western Catskill Mountains region was formed millions of years ago.

CITIES OF RARE BIRDS FOUND IN GULF-COAST WILDS

Miles from human habitation, in an isolated and wild section of the Gulf coast of Texas, enormous cities of birds were found recently. Some were of species not known to exist anywhere in the United States, except in limited numbers. Among these was the white-face, glossy ibis, the American cousin of the sacred bird of Egypt, whose gorgeous bronze plumage was used as a decoration for women's hats until laws were passed forbidding the practice. Living in another colony were the wood ibis, commonly called the American stork; the rare white-face ibis, sought by naturalists for years; and the roseate spoonbill, noted for its brilliant feathers.

ELECTRIC HEAT IN FURNITURE IS CONVENIENT AND SAFE

Electrically heated screens, mirrors, panels, and hangings for theaters have been designed recently. Low-temperature elements are used so as not to injure the furniture in any way or to mar its appearance. In one instance a tapestry screen with four wings, each 5 feet by 2 feet, was equipped so as to give a temperature of from 75 to 105°. Efforts are being made to adapt this system to domestic purposes generally, as it is claimed that it is safe and convenient.

Electrically Heated Screen in Which Hidden Elements Raise Temperature to 105 Degrees

CANTERING WOODEN HORSES RACED BY CHILDREN

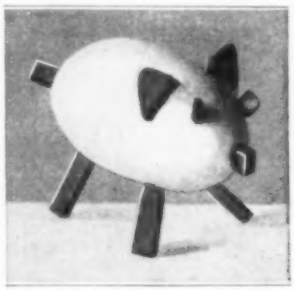
Combining amusement and healthy exercise, a wooden horse that canters has been made in Europe. It is strong, flexible, and compact, and can easily be carried when not in use. The toy has won wide popularity among children, who may be seen with it in the parks every day, holding amateur races.

PHOTO BY COURTESY OF THE SKETCH

Wooden Horses That Canter being Raced by Children, the Latest Sport in London Parks

FLY MOVES TOY PIG'S EARS IN TRYING TO ESCAPE

In attempting to escape, flies, which have been imprisoned in the body of a toy pig, cause its ears to move. Two flies are necessary to work both ears at the same time. One of the rubber legs may be withdrawn to permit the entrance of a live fly that has been captured. The ears immediately respond to the activities of the prisoners. As the flies are invisible, the movements of the legs and ears cause much curiosity.



Thrills Made to Order in the Movies at the Risk of Life and Limb

Stars of the Silver Screen Often Called Upon to Face Death as Result of Demand for More Realism in Pictures

HANGING by the heels on a 6-inch ledge with the street cavern yawning 12 stories below is no trick at all—in the movies.

Missing a foothold on the edge of a tall brick precipice and being caught by the hands of a clock 10 floors above the earth, however, contains almost as many thrills for the actor as it does for the spectators.

For these are the days of realism in pictures, the result of a ceaseless demand on the part of a public long accustomed to seeing speeding automobiles plunge over steep cliffs, death-defying leaps into a raging surf, and airplane crashes, for more thrills.

While only a few years ago most of the "stunt" pictures were the result of trick photography, double exposure, and splicing of the film in the cutting rooms, today the highest-priced stars of filmdom are often called upon to risk their lives.

In other cases "doubles" are employed to take the place of the star for the more hazardous undertakings. Dressed and made up to resemble the actor, they brave death in leaps from speeding trains to airplanes, jump over cliffs, and ride motorcycles into locomotives with no chance of winning either fame or glory for themselves. They are the unsung heroes of the movies.

Many risks, however, are taken by the stars. In one instance, during the filming of a western melodrama, the heroine was called upon to plunge into an icy mountain torrent and float downstream toward a cataract. Camera men and the director trailed along in a boat behind so that a close-up of her face in the water could be obtained.

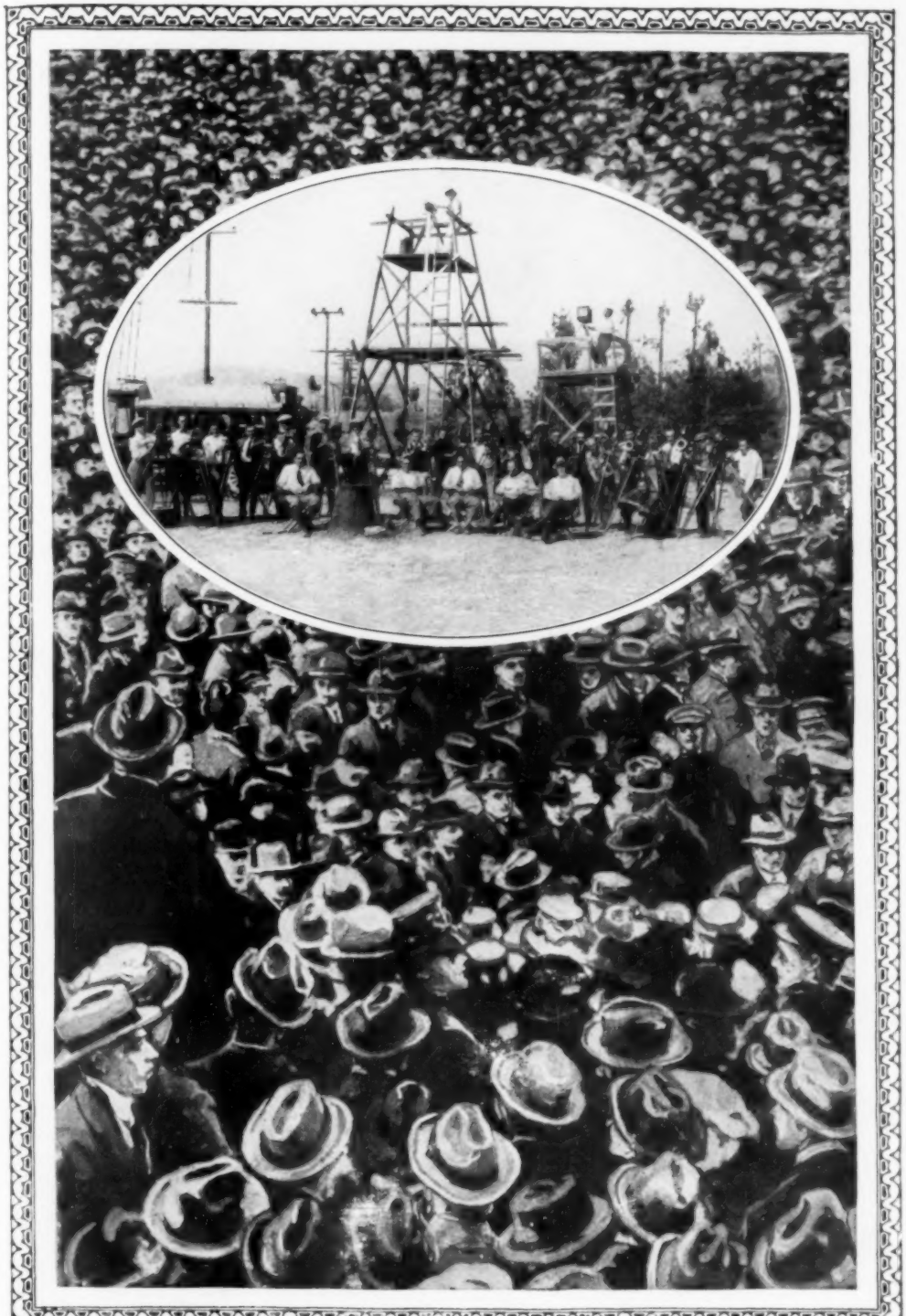
It had been found by experiment that the current would carry floating objects to a sand bar just above the falls, and a watcher was stationed there to pull her from the water as she swept past. But, instead, the current swept her to the other side of the stream and she would have been dashed over the falls to certain death had not her secretary managed to grab a bit of her dress and draw her to the shore. One of the strongest bits of realism ever shown on a screen probably, was the expression of hopeless horror on the face of the victim as she realized her danger. This was caught by the camera in the boat.

Considerable hazard often is eliminated by the use of wires that protect the actor against falls. These cannot be seen when the picture is shown on the screen. In the comedies, also, many other tricks are employed. One is a rest at the back of an automobile that holds the actor out parallel to the road and makes him appear to be stretched out like a ribbon.

To do this two pictures are taken and spliced together. In the first, he chases after the automobile and catches the rear seat with his hands, throwing his feet into the air. Then the automobile goes back, the actor takes his place on the rack and it covers the same course. Later the films are cut and joined at the point where he first leaped into the air.

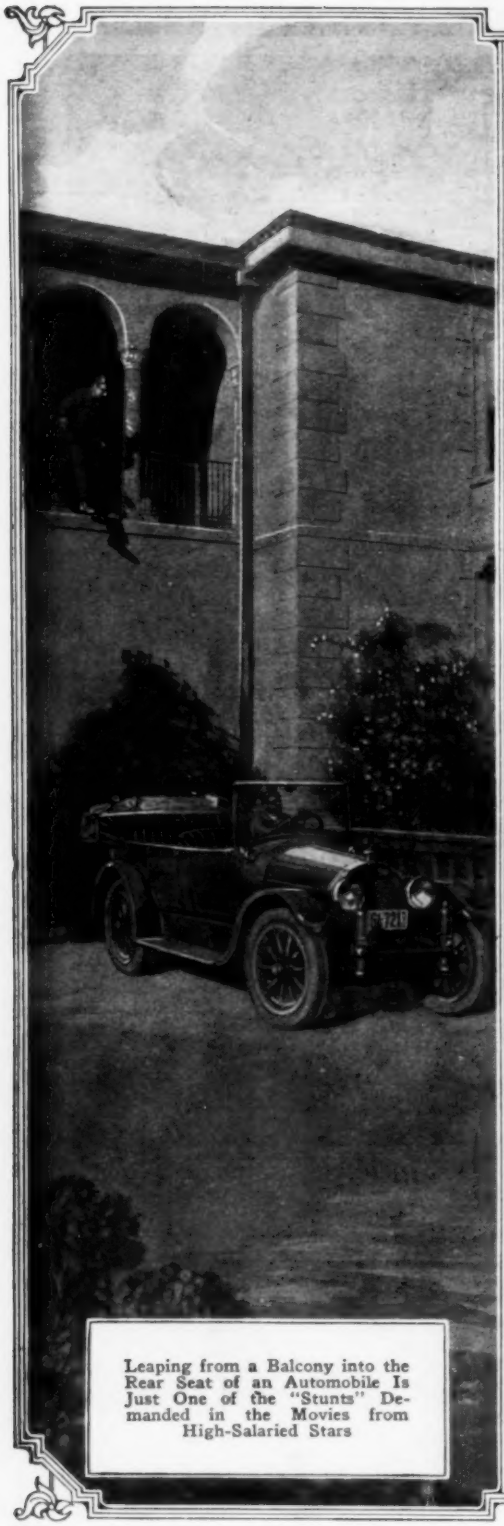
In making a picture of a man climbing the side of a building and doing apparently perilous stunts many floors above the street, a real building was selected and a circus performer employed to double for the actor in the "long shots." Then a fake building was built on top of the real one. The "set" was built in far enough so that the roof would break any fall and also would provide a platform for the camera. By "shooting" at a proper angle, however, the drop to the street looked straight down.

BATTERIES OF CAMERAS FILM MOBS IN ACTION

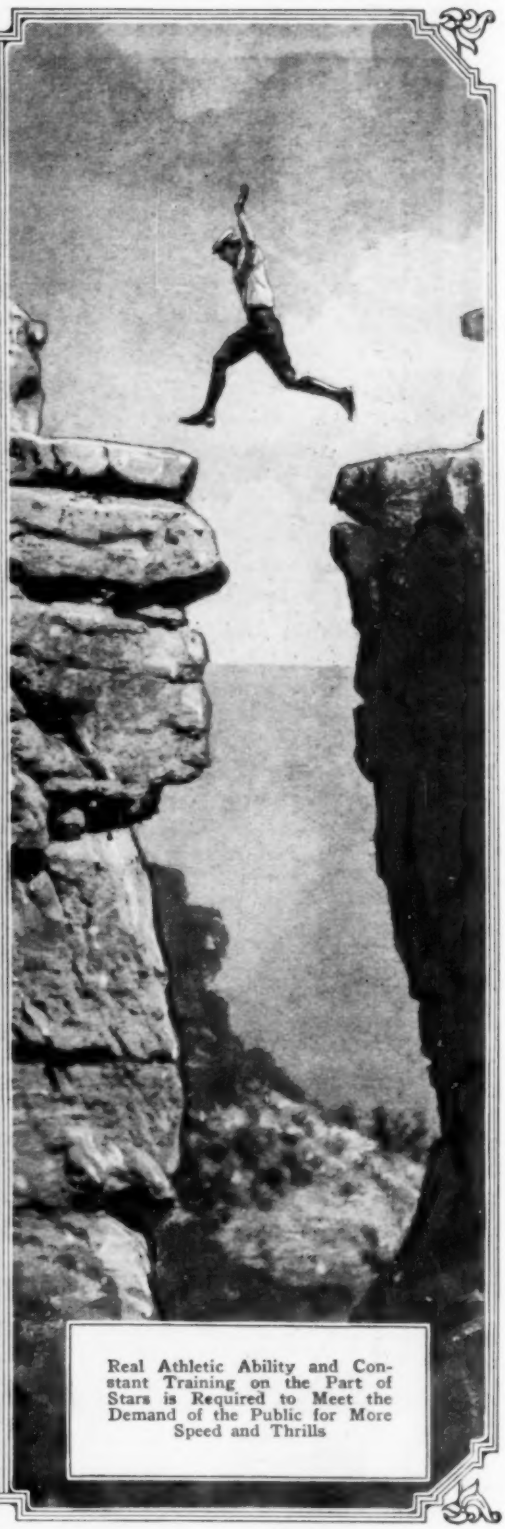


In Making the Great Moving-Picture Features, Whole Armies of Actors are Called into Motion, the Voice of the Director being Carried to Them by Radio-Magnifying Devices

WHERE A MISSTEP WOULD HAVE MEANT DEATH

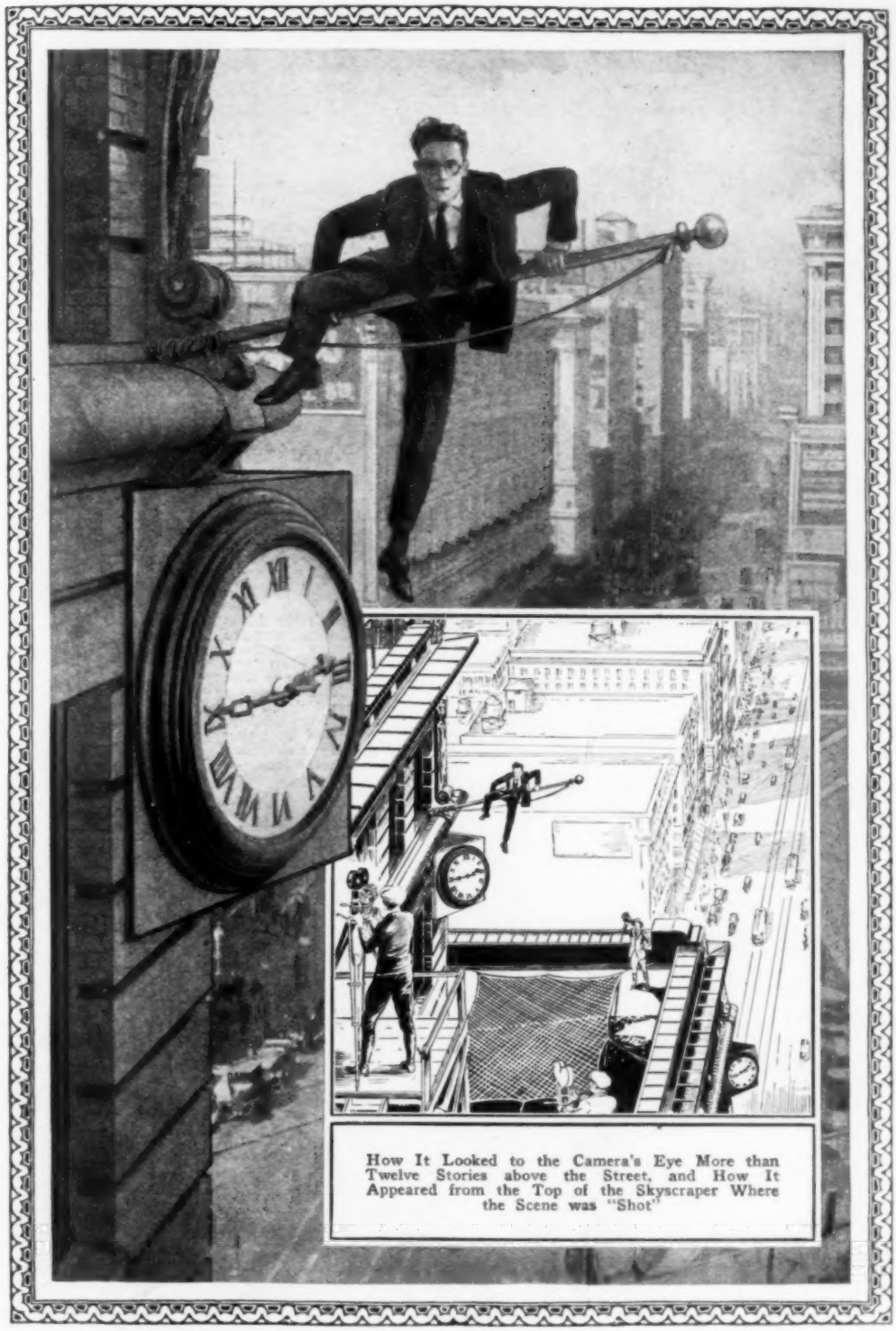


Leaping from a Balcony into the Rear Seat of an Automobile Is Just One of the "Stunts" Demanded in the Movies from High-Salaried Stars



Real Athletic Ability and Constant Training on the Part of Stars is Required to Meet the Demand of the Public for More Speed and Thrills

MAKING DARING STUNT PICTURE FOR THE MOVIES



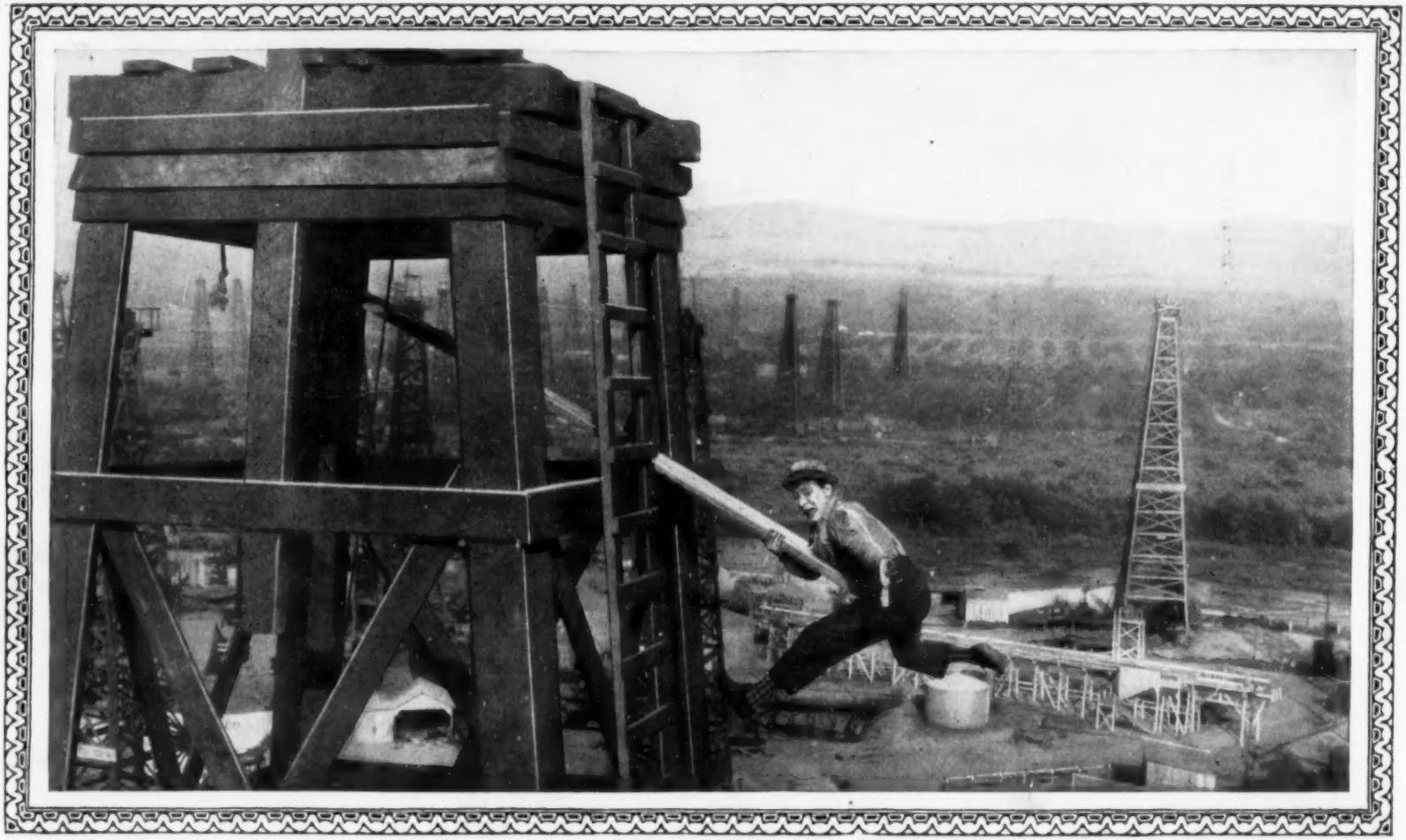
How It Looked to the Camera's Eye More than Twelve Stories above the Street, and How It Appeared from the Top of the Skyscraper Where the Scene was "Shot"

FACING REAL DANGER ON THE BRINK OF WHIRLPOOL

Although the Lives of Movie Stars are Carefully Guarded, They Often are Called Upon to Risk Death in Response to the Public's Demand for Realism, Accidents Upsetting the Best Planned Precautions

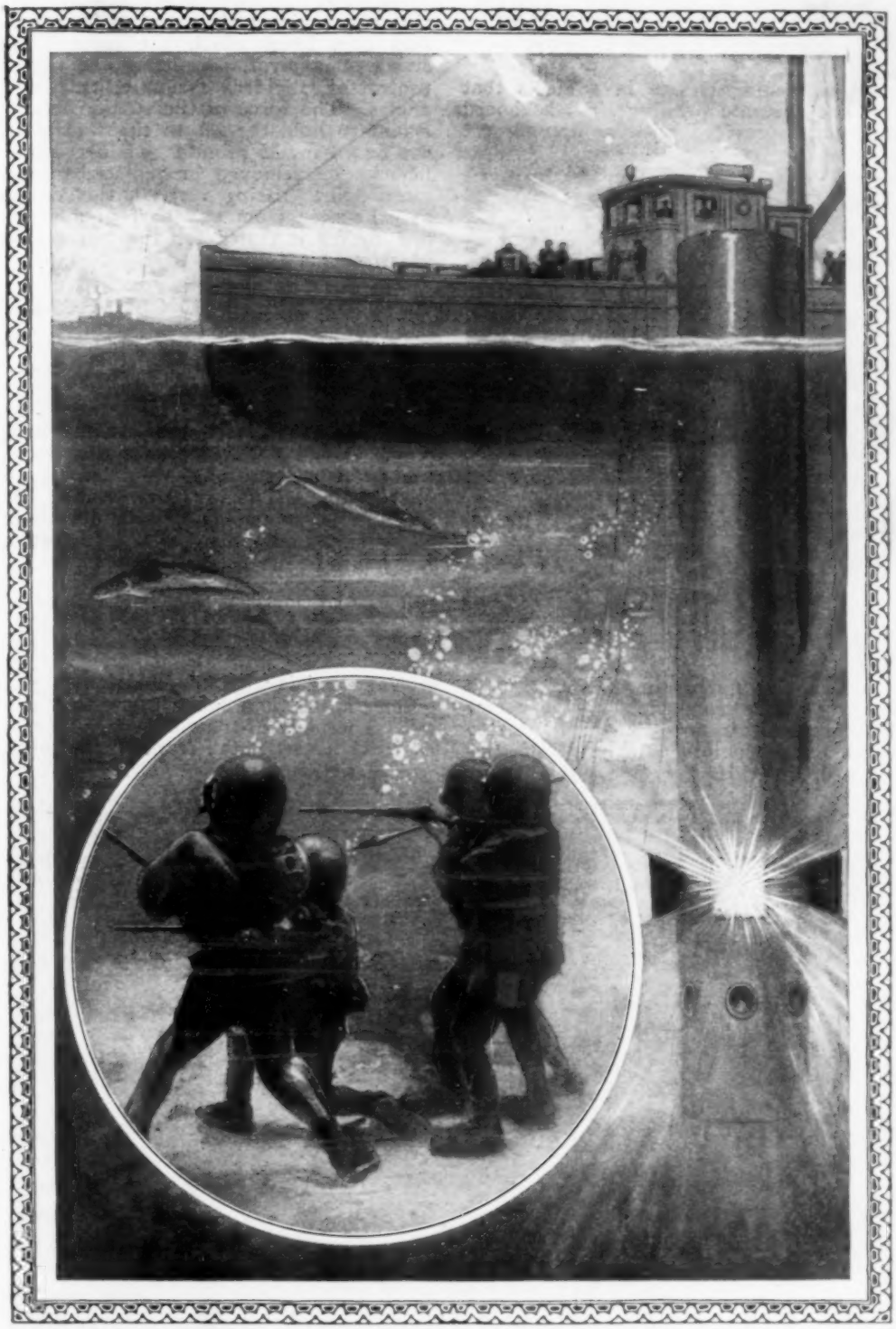
CAMERA MEN AND STARS SHARE IN SAME PERILS

While the Camera Men Never Appear on the Screen, They Often Take the Rôle of Unsung Heroes in the Taking of the Pictures, As They Have to Follow the Stars and at the Same Time Carry Their Heavy Tripods to Obtain Effective Views



Fine Wires and Nets That do Not Appear in the Completed Picture When It is Thrown on the Silver Screen, Often Enable Actors to Perform Seemingly Impossible Feats. Trick Photography and Double Exposure are Seldom Used, as These Devices have Become So Familiar to Audiences That They are Usually Detected

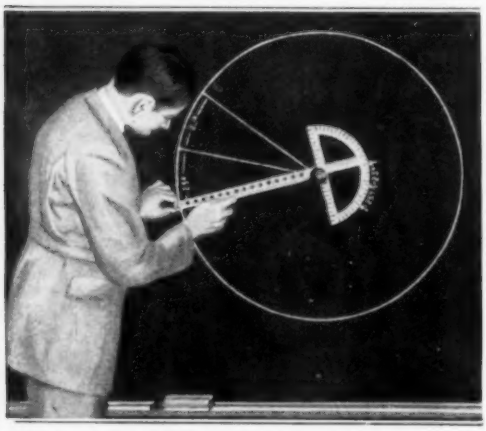
MOVIE CAMERA'S EYE PENETRATES OCEAN'S DEPTHS



In Long Tubes Swung from Boats, Operators Film Scenes Far beneath the Surface of the Sea, Electric Lights Supplying the Necessary Illumination for the Actors in Diving Suits

SUCTION CUP HOLDS RULER AGAINST BLACKBOARD

For teaching classes in subjects that require accurate drawings, a blackboard has been provided with a drawing set that can be instantly attached by a suction cup, from which the instruments swing on a pivot, permitting the use of protractor, divider, T-square, rule, and angles. The force of the suction is sufficient to hold the set to the surface of the board for 15 minutes, when the outfit may be removed or replaced at the same point. Being vertical, this device may be seen from any part of a room, and makes it easier for the lecturer to illustrate his subjects.



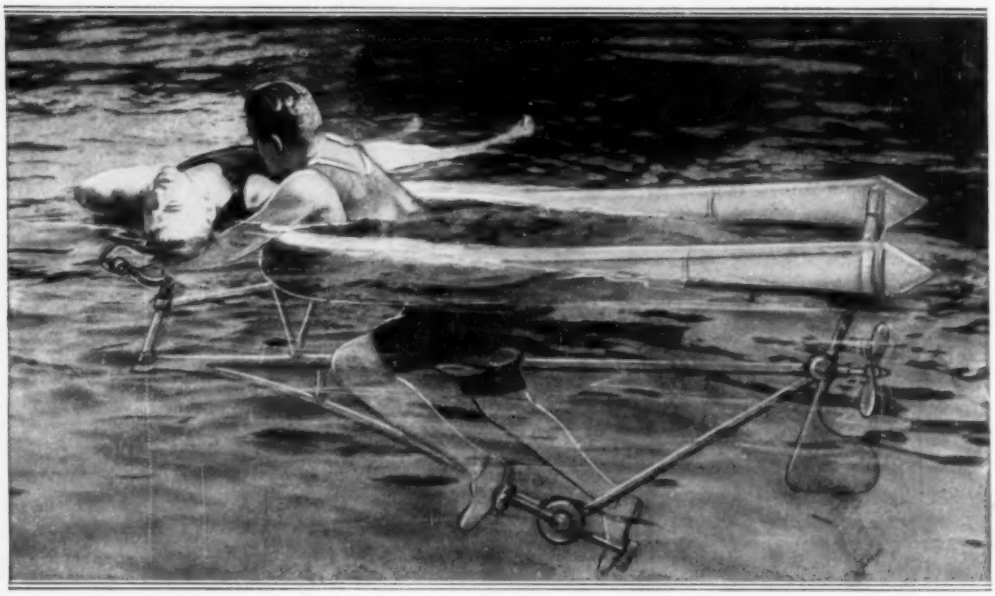
Drawing Set Attached to Blackboard by Suction Cup to Aid Teachers and Lecturers

NELSON'S SHIP TO SAIL AGAIN

Work of reconstructing and restoring Nelson's famous flagship, the "Victory," that successfully led the attack on the ships of Napoleon in Trafalgar Bay in 1805, has been started at Portsmouth, Eng. It was on the deck of this vessel that Nelson, mortally wounded by a shot from an enemy gun, issued his memorable command: "England expects every man to do his duty." He died a few hours before the battle ended.

WATER BICYCLE SAVES DROWNING PERSONS

To aid life guards in rescue work, a floating frame supported in the water between two air tanks, enables them to reach danger points quickly. Half submerged, the rider drives a propeller by working pedals with his feet, traveling at greater speed than swimming would permit. The body of the victim may be easily thrown across the front of the tanks and carried to shore.



Guard Making Rescue from Life-Saving Device Driven by a Propeller Worked with Pedals: The Victim is Placed on the Floating Tanks and Rushed to Receive First Aid

MANY SEA LIONS ARE SLAIN TO PROTECT FISH

Armed with machine guns and rifles, a ship sent out by the Canadian government destroyed several large colonies of sea lions which fed on fish inhabiting the waters around a group of islands. By launching small boats, the vessel's crew were able to surround numerous herds of the monsters, driving them on to high rocks where heavy gun fire killed them. It was estimated that every one of the animals shot meant a saving of several hundreds of dollars' worth of valuable fish each year.

FOOT POWER CARRIES WATER TO CHINA'S MILLIONS

Because labor in some parts of China is cheaper than gas or electricity, the ancient method of drawing water by foot pumps is still practiced. Treading coolies provide the motive power for raising buckets of water, two men by working

Two Men Who Walk All Day Long, Never Moving Forward, Merely to Draw Water

all day without rest supplying a small village. Despite modern ideas in many of the large cities of China, this crude way of pumping water is generally used throughout the country.

SKELETON OF DINOSAUR FOUND

Practically a complete, fossilized skeleton of a dinosaur, a huge animal living thousands of years ago, has been found by an expedition traveling through Asia. Working in what is believed to have been a river bed, the searchers discovered the bones at a depth of three feet.

HEADS CARVED IN DIRT BANK SHOW SKILL OF SCULPTOR

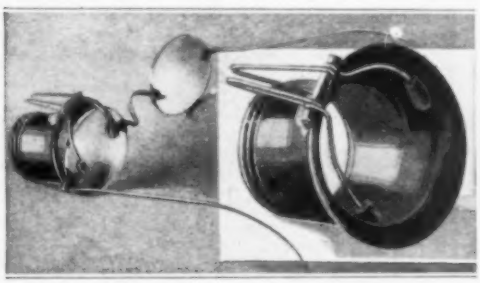
Carvings of life-size heads on the side of a mud bank show the skill of a west-

Work of Sculptor in Mud Bank That He Paints White So It will Stand Out in Relief

ern artist who has made some remarkably realistic reliefs of noted persons. Many of his figures are larger than life size. These were made while he stood on a large stepladder. Painting the figures white with an ordinary brush makes them stand out in relief and visible from a long distance.

SPRINGS ON JEWELERS' LENS HOLD IT ON SPECTACLES

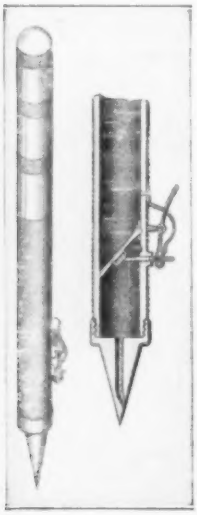
So that jewelers' lenses may be used conveniently by those having to wear spectacles, they have been fitted with springs that attach to the glasses. Instantly detachable, they do not interfere in any way with the ordinary vision. Also, they require no effort to hold them in place. To watchmakers and others,



Jewelers' Lenses Made to be Attached to Spectacles by Almost Invisible Spring Clips

whose work has impaired their eyes, the attachment has proved a great convenience, besides relieving them of the strain caused by holding the glass in position.

FOUNTAIN MANICURE STICK CARRIES OWN POLISH



For supplying its own liquid nail polish or cuticle oil, a patented manicure stick with a hollow stem, opened and closed by a small spring device on the side worked by the thumb, feeds any desired quantity to removable orangewood points having holes drilled through them. Interchangeable tips with screw threads may be attached for different kinds of work, to the end of the barrel, which is about the size of the ordinary fountain pen and may be carried in the vest pocket or purse, or kept on the dressing table.

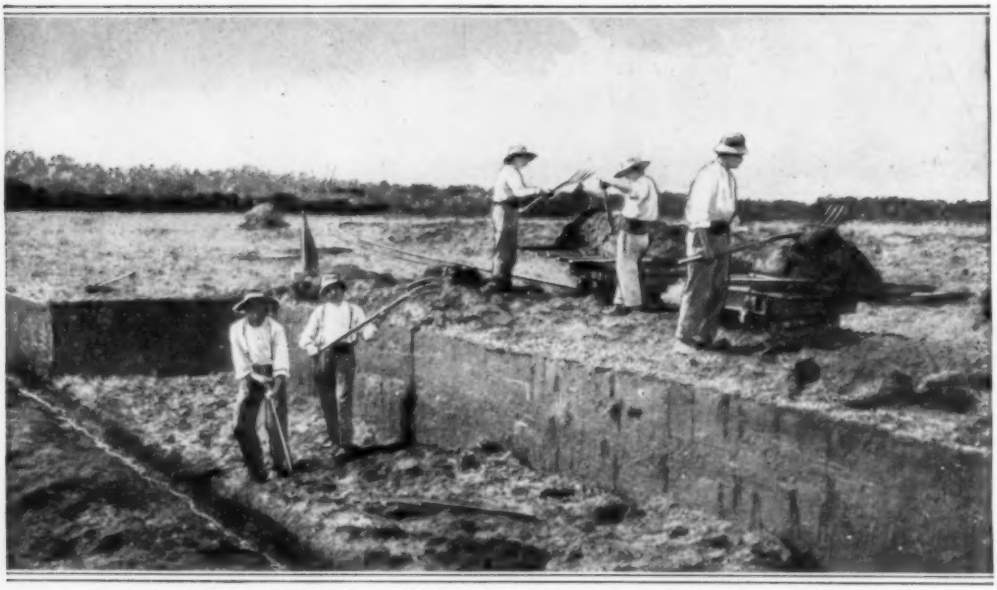
RICH MINE OF PLANT ROOTS YIELDS PAPER AND FOOD

On a river in southwestern France there was discovered recently a deposit of almost 1,000,000 tons of fiber made from roots of a plant called "molinia," which, when mixed with molasses, makes good cattle food. When dried it replaces wood wool for packing fruit, and is also used for paper making. The fiber provides bedding for animals, too. Sixteen feet thick and spreading over 32 acres, the deposit is said to be one of the largest in the world. It is removed with pitchforks to the cars on a small railway, built specially to haul it away. Under the valuable fiber bed are 5,000,000 tons of plastic clay for pottery and tiles.

X-RAY IS AN AID TO STUDENTS IN STUDYING ANATOMY

In order that students may receive practical experience, instructors of an eastern college this year will use X-ray photographs as an aid to their anatomy classes. By studying the human framework directly from the pictures, the pupils will learn the subject more quickly and in addition gain a more thorough idea of the practice of surgery. Experts assert that the X-ray gives a positive reproduction and thus is a great aid in diagnosis of ailments. Modern methods have virtually eliminated the danger of burns from its rays.

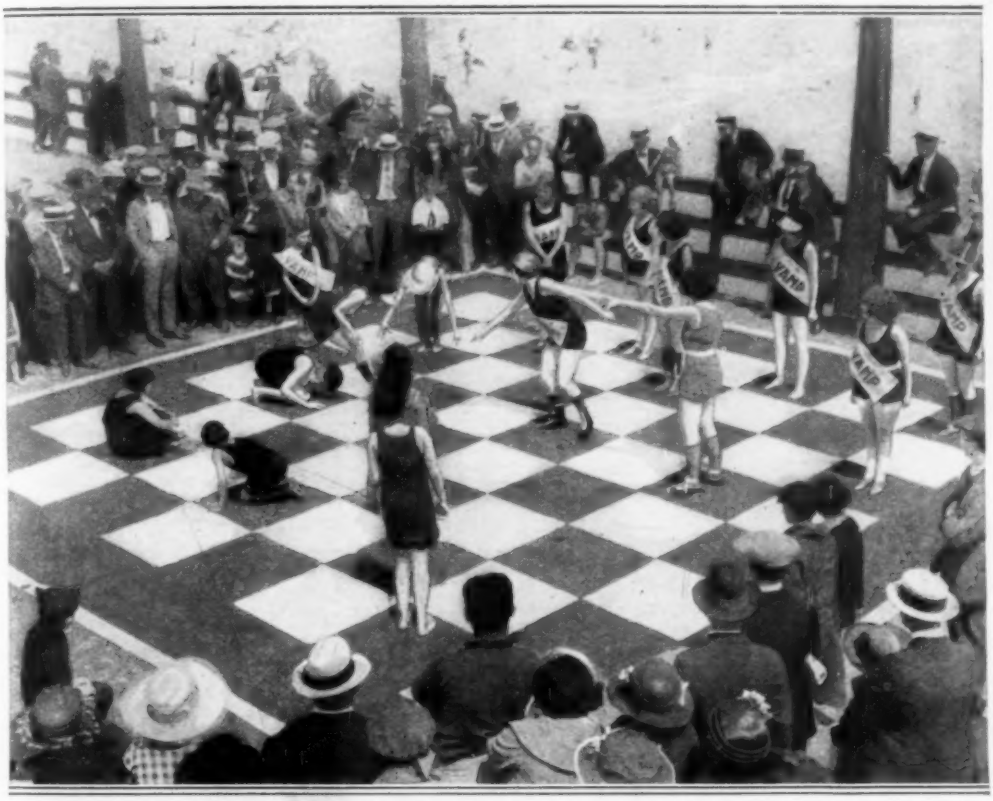
¶Although well-preserved wood was taken from the tomb of King Tutankhamen recently, supposed to have been sealed about 3,000 years ago, scientists believe that modern preservatives are equal in effectiveness to the substance used by the Egyptians.



Removing Fiber of Roots of Plant Used for Cattle Food, Paper Making, and Fruit Packing

HUMAN "CHECKERS" USED IN GAME ON BEACHES

Exciting sport for both the spectators and the players is provided by a game known as "beach checkers" that has proved popular on the Pacific coast. Usually girls are used as the "checkermen," but men may play it also. In many ways it resembles leapfrog, the contestants being forced to jump over any opposing player who is holding them back. The action takes place on a huge checkerboard laid out on the sands with white squares of cloth.



Human "Checkers" being Used in Game Played on Beaches with Squares Laid Out in Sand: The Contestants are Required to Jump over Opposing Players as in Leapfrog

LONG-LOST MINE IS FOUND IN THE MEXICAN WILDS

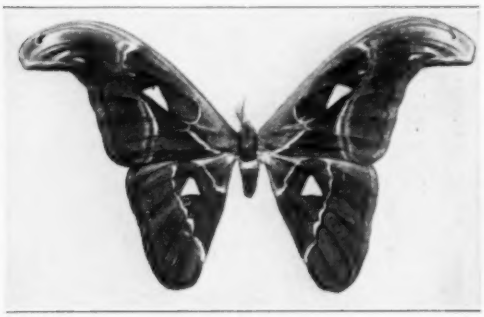
Hidden for centuries as a result of a cave-in, the main ore body of the famous Bondora mine of Mexico, reputed to have produced millions of dollars' worth of silver and lead in the latter part of the 18th century, is said to have been rediscovered by an American prospector. Records indicate that it was first found in 1766 by goat and sheep herders, and that it was worked until 1786 when the shafts collapsed, causing the rich vein to be lost from sight. A city of 16,000 inhabitants had grown up around the mountain where the riches were stored, but that has long since vanished, only the crumbling walls and fallen stones of its houses now remaining. A young Spaniard, who went to Mexico to forget disappointment in a love affair, is said to have been the first owner of the property.

WASHINGTON ELM IS DYING

America's historic elm, under whose branches George Washington accepted command of the army of '76, is reported to be dying and beyond saving. For many years, tree surgeons have made strenuous efforts to prolong its life. It stands near Harvard University, at Cambridge, Mass.

RAINBOW'S COLORS MADE ON BUTTERFLY FARMS

ALL the magic colors of the rainbow are being made to order on butterfly farms in France. From the almost invisible eggs and crawling, ugly caterpillars to the marvelously tinted specimens treasured by collectors, they are bred and cared for as painstakingly as the



Many-Hued Specimen

rarest plants or the most valuable race horses.

Seeking to turn out shades that will rival nature's wonders, scientists are now trying to find a way to determine the color of the butterfly before its birth through experiments in crossbreeding that already have met with partial success. While previously only a pastime for amateurs, the study of the butterflies has now become the serious work of scientists.

Often a single rare specimen has been sold for $3,000, the delicate body and wings being preserved with a varnishlike substance and used as a decoration for a hat or dress by women. They are also in great demand by collectors, and enable experts to study the formation and shading of colors.

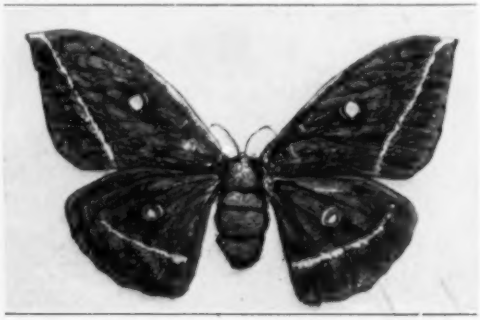
Farms devoted to the cultivation of the insects provide plenty of trees, such as apple and pine, with abundant leaves, which form the chief food of the caterpillars. Great care is taken when the eggs start to hatch. They are placed on branches which are stuck in vases filled with water, while a protecting gauze prevents the feeble young insects from drowning. As soon as the leaves are devoured, fresh branches are provided. The room in which the eggs are hatched is well ventilated and an even temperature is maintained. After two weeks, they are removed to the open air. There protection is provided against birds, a sort of sleeve being placed over the branches.

When they reach the size of full-grown caterpillars, the protecting sleeve is removed. At this stage the danger from birds is remote, due to the extreme fat of the caterpillars, which is disliked by their feathered enemies. Soon the insects retire in cocoons or wrap themselves up in leaves. These later are collected and stored in well-ventilated receptacles, and the evolution into a beautiful butterfly is the next stage.

It has been found that a butterfly may change its coloring because of the action of heat and cold and, perhaps, electricity in the air. These changes are as follows: from light to dark brown, turning almost black. Other changes are due to the way in which the scales are arranged, tawny yellow sometimes turning so pale that it will look almost white. Red, yellow, white, brown, or black, as well as blue and violet, are so arranged that they are capable of displaying many shades.

Generally it has been found that the lighter shades indicate feebleness, while the darker forms show physical strength. With these lessons in mind, experts turn to their laboratories and apply in many ways a practical, scientific knowledge both of breeding and of colors.

To the eye, the wings of a moth seem to be covered with minute particles of dust that rub off on the slightest touch. But closer observation shows that they are coated with thousands of tiny scales, that



Female Silkworm Butterfly

overlap one another in the fashion of shingles on the roof of a house. In those are the pigments, that together make the gorgeous colorings.

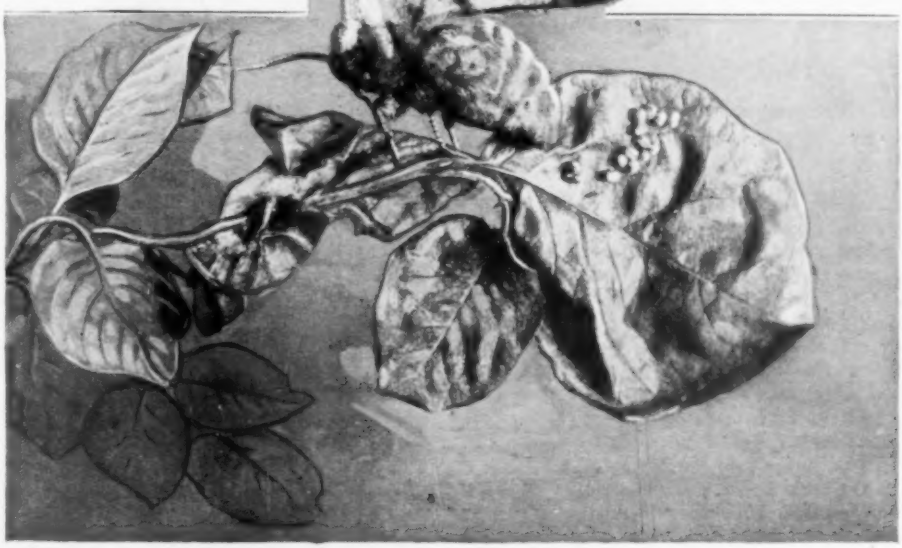
Nature has designed the colors to make the butterflies almost invisible while they are feeding or resting on flowers or trees, to protect them from their enemies, the birds.

Selecting for Study

Shielding the Young

Pressing the Wings

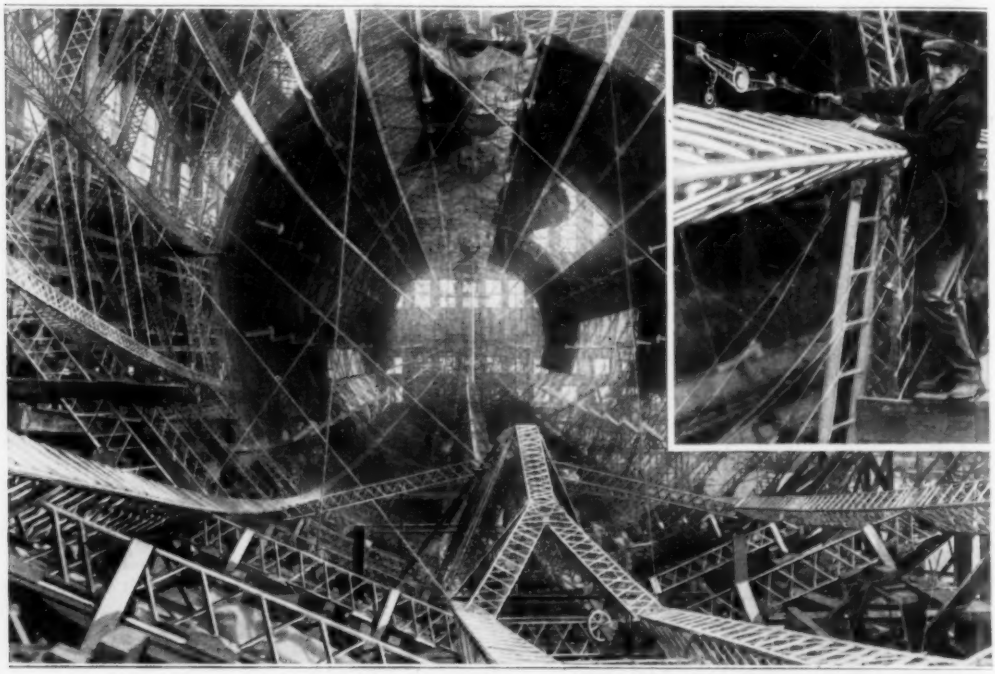
Marking for Records



Gorgeously Winged Female of the Peacock Moth Depositing Its Eggs on the Tender Leaves of a Tree That Furnishes Food to the Young When They have Hatched

NAVY TESTS GUARD LIVES OF AIR-CRAFT CREWS

To protect the lives of airmen, the navy puts every scrap of material used in building its airplanes and dirigibles to many tests. Hundreds of inspectors are constantly employed in this work and many special machines have been made to insure accuracy. When the great dirigible "ZR-1" was being built at Lakehurst, N. J., every wire was tested by pressure gauges before and after being installed, to insure its strength and that the tension put upon it was not too great. Chemically treated linen that was stretched over the steel ribs of the craft also was tried in special machines before it was put in place. Realizing that some hidden flaw may result in loss of lives, every effort is made to assure the soundness of the material used. In testing cloth, strips are suspended in a wooden framework and exposed to the weight of one load applied in a lengthwise direction at the same time as four variable loads are also pulling on the same sample in the other direction. An aluminum preparation is painted over the cloth to give it a surface that will reflect sunlight and thus eliminate the penetration of objectionable heat into the gas-storage tanks. Any excess of heat would cause undue expansion of the gas. Government experts also are seeking to produce helium gas in quantities at a low enough price to render it satisfactory for aircraft use. Facilities have been perfected for making the same quality of helium gas that was produced during the World War in limited amounts, at a cost of $1,500 a cubic foot, for 7 cents a cubic foot. Hydrogen gas costs ¼ cent a cubic foot. Helium is a noninflammable gas, while hydrogen is highly explosive.



Naval Dirigible being Given Finishing Touches in Preparation for Its First Flight, While Guide Wires are Tested to Safeguard Lives of Crew

CHAIR IS TURNED INTO BED FOR SMALL APARTMENTS

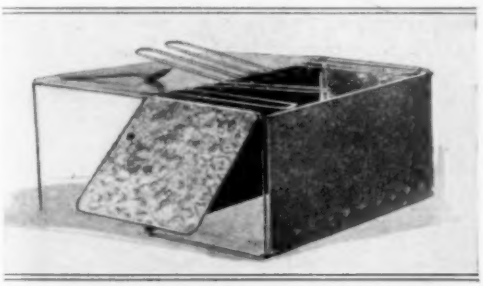
For use in small apartments, where bedroom space is limited, a luxurious chair that may be turned into a full-sized bed, has been made. Concealed from view in the back rest, are the box springs and soft mattress which pull down in a few seconds when it is desired to use them for sleeping. The bottom and arms slide out and support the footboard, giving it stability. Combining the features of both in a single piece of furniture, it results in a great saving of space.

MOISTURE-PROOF POWDER IS ALSO SMOKELESS

Damp-proof, flashless, and smokeless, a powder for use in small firearms and artillery has been developed recently by the army experts. Possessing all the driving power of the old type, it will do away with a great portion of the care taken to keep ammunition dry under conditions of modern warfare. During tests, it was completely submerged in water without harm.

FOLDING CAMP STOVE COOKS MEAL FOR TEN PERSONS

When cooking on a small folding camp stove recently invented, the sportsman keeps cool because he is shielded from the heat by a metal plate. The stove, though large enough to prepare a meal for 10 persons, is folded flat when not in use, being an inch thick, a foot wide, and a trifle longer, and all parts are attached so that there is nothing to be lost. Because the screen over the fire is made of a dozen separate sections, it is not necessary to lift the entire top when putting in more fuel. Attached to the stove is a metal plate which can be set up as a table top for warming dishes.



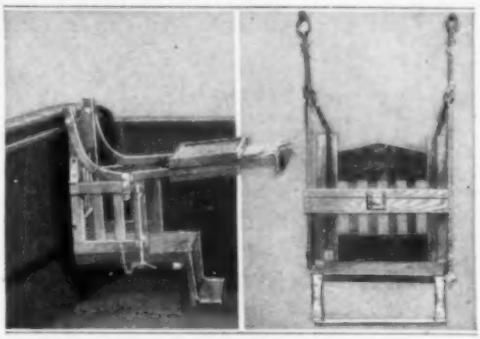
Camp Stove, That Is Large Enough for 10 Persons, but may be Folded into Small Space

WOOD GLOVES TO PROTECT HANDS FROM WRINGER

To protect the hands of women who use a wringer, wooden gloves have been made so that the fingers cannot be drawn between the rollers. The gloves fit tightly over the fingers and a double rubber cap with flexible, water-tight finger holes, keeps the water out, preventing scalding. They also enable the clothes to be handled properly, without the usual danger, so that buttons are not torn off or the fabrics injured.

SWING IN AUTO FOR BABY ALSO MAKES HIGH CHAIR

Folding into a small compact package, a baby's chair has been patented recently that may be used as a swing in an automobile, on the lawn, or in the house. By fixing a hinged wooden arm to the car door, a tree, or between two table chairs, it may be suspended only a few inches above the floor or the ground. It can be used for a high chair, as it may be utilized as such simply by clamping it to the backrest of any ordinary dining-room chair. A small drawer, underneath the part that locks the child in the seat and also serves as its table, holds a knife, fork, spoon, and napkin.



Folding Chair Combined with Swing, for Baby's Use in Auto or at Home

CONCRETE ROAD "BLOWS UP," WRECKING AN AUTO

Due to expansion caused by intense heat of the sun, a piece of concrete road is reported to have "exploded" recently just as an automobile was passing over it, throwing the car into the ditch. Several other similar incidents are attributed to differences in the top and bottom material, resulting in unequal expansion. The force exerted may be so powerful as to hurl broken blocks of concrete into the air, leaving large holes much like those made by charges of dynamite. In one case the upheaval left a gap 3 feet wide in the highway. Brick and wood-block paving, also, have been known to expand from heat or moisture, buckling with a sudden upward movement.

¶ Heat is measured in British thermal units, known to engineers as "B. T. U." One of these is about the amount of heat given off by a match in lighting a cigar.

SKIMMED MILK MADE INTO ARTICLES OF BEAUTY

Combining beauty with utility, a material is being made from skimmed milk by a process recently brought to the

Articles of Great Beauty and Worth That were Made from Skimmed Milk

United States from England. As it is noninflammable, odorless, and can be drilled, glued, and dyed, it has a multitude of uses as a substitute for ivory, ebony, amber, tortoise shell, horn, and other similar products. Besides, it may be used as an almost perfect imitation of many natural products of great price, among them being Chinese jade and lapis lazuli. A brilliant polish is easily obtained and it can be bent, pressed, and, to some extent, molded, or machined. As it is a nonconductor of electricity, it may be used in making decorative radio and lighting fittings. Also it has been found valuable for ships' cabins, handrails, automobile fixtures, and in the making of beads, buckles, buttons, jewelry, fancy ornaments, cigarette holders, combs, brushes, carriage handles, parts of furniture, pencils and penholders, organ stops, and piano keys.

SICK CURED WITH GASES FIRST USED IN WAR

Deadly gases developed during the war are now being used to cure disease. Grip, colds, and the "flu" are quickly checked by chlorine gas, say army chemists. Mustard gas is being used to combat tuberculosis, while paresis, and other diseases, are being treated with some success with "lewisite," a gas of arsenic and acetylene. This was invented for use by American troops.

FLOATING AIR-CRAFT DEPOT IN MIDDLE OF OCEAN

Linking of the sea, air, and land is seen in a proposed depot, far out at sea, where airships and planes may pause for supplies and passengers during transatlantic flights. Under the plan, the stations would be made like floating platforms with masts similar to those of a ship to which lighter-than-air craft might be moored. Anchored in position, but free to swing with the wind, platforms would be provided for the arrival and departure of airplanes plying between the United States and Europe. Such a depot, it is urged, would serve as a place of refuge in case of severe storms, or for emergency repairs or supplies. In addition, powerful lights would be provided for the guidance of sky travelers.

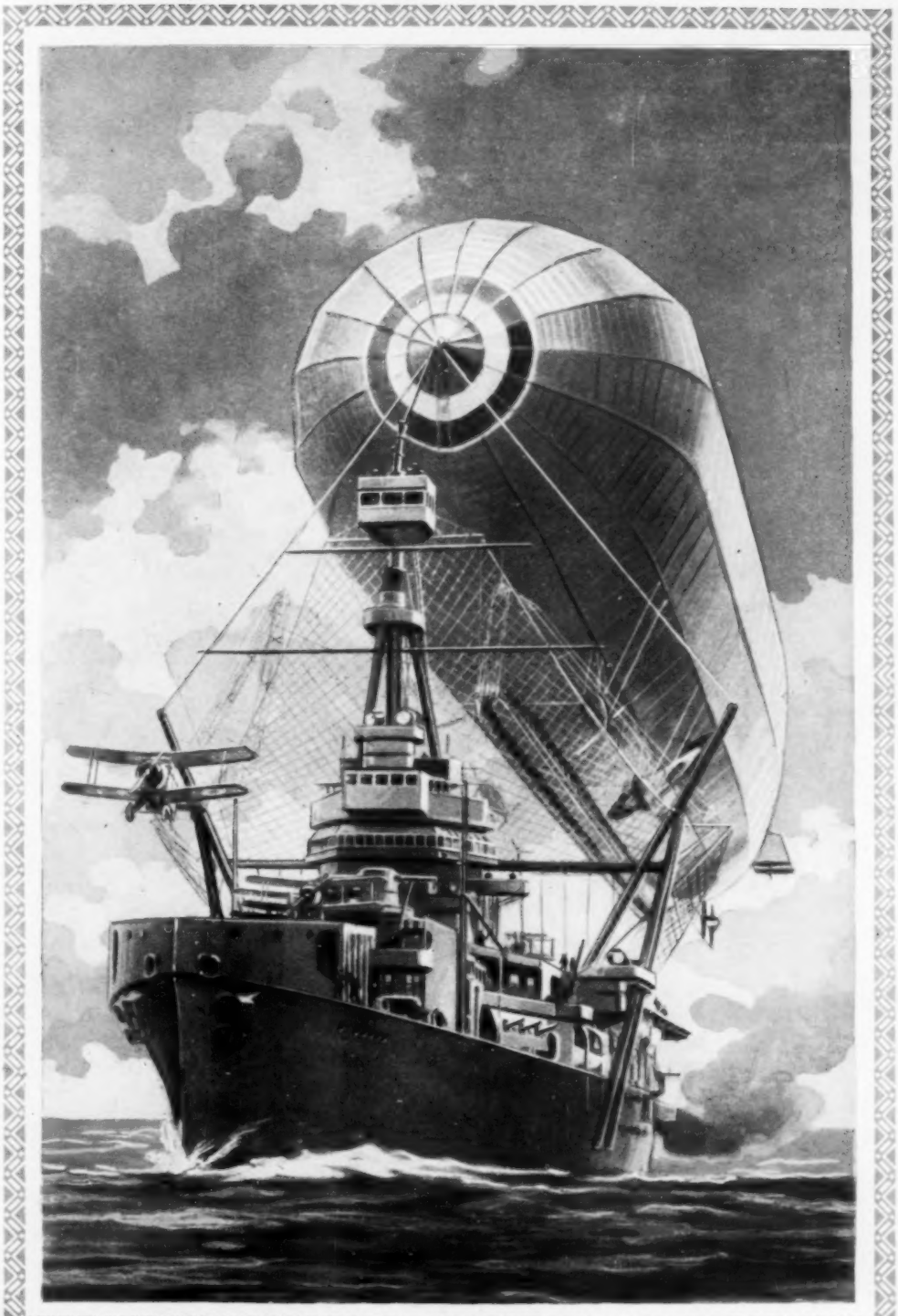
WINDOW WIPER GIVES CLEAR VISION FOR MOTORMEN

Cleaning the window as it swings, an automatic device is being made to give street-car motormen a clear view in stormy weather, thus lessening the danger of accidents. Operated by compressed air, a long arm, fitted with a rubber blade, rests against the window pane and moves in a wide arc across the glass, sweeping away either snow or rain. It is operated by air supplied from a tank underneath the car and is similar to an automatic

Automatic Window Cleaner, Operated by Air, Gives Motorman Clear View in Stormy Weather

automobile-windshield cleaner now in general use. The cleaner is expected to reduce accident claims.

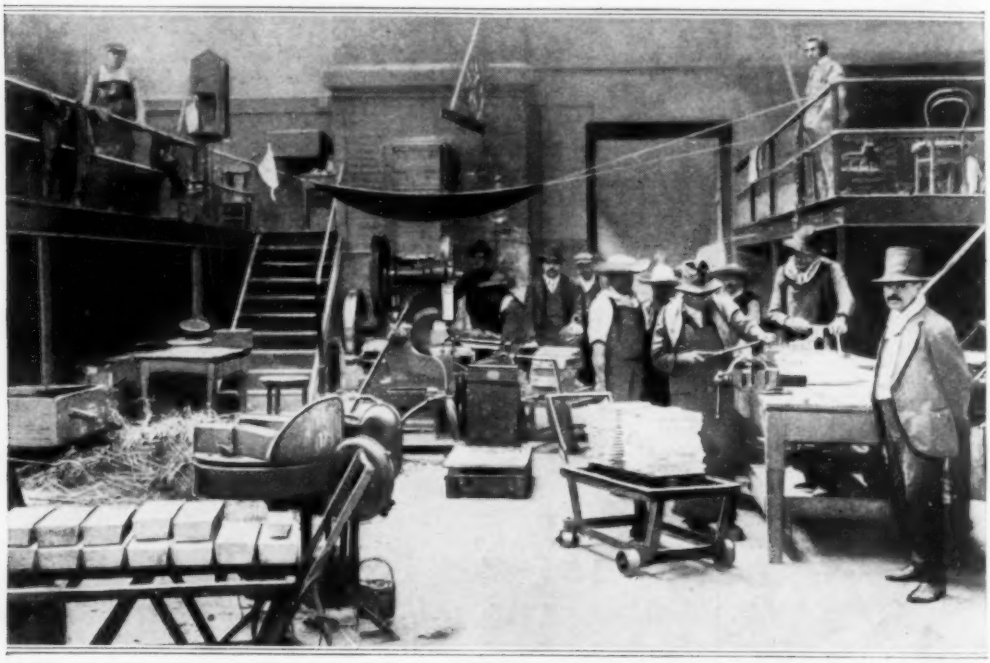
¶Grief, poverty, and business failures are given as the chief causes of 80,000 suicides in Germany last year.



Battleship Designed to Serve as a Supply Station in the Middle of the Ocean for Transatlantic Aerial Voyagers, and as a Carrier for Dirigibles and Airplanes

MAKING FLOOD OF MONEY KEEPS MINTS BUSY

With the value of paper money so low in many European countries that sometimes a basket full of it is needed to make an ordinary purchase, printing presses and engravers have been known to work overtime to turn it out. The material on which it is printed does not last long under the wear of handling, and the supply must be replaced regularly. As the face value becomes less, a greater amount is necessary, requiring more speed on the part of the printer. Throughout the countries of North and South America plenty of gold, silver, and copper coins are in the hands of the people, although many banknotes and bills are to be seen.



Mexican Government Mint Working Overtime to Produce Sufficient Silver and Copper Coins to Supply the Needs of the Citizens, Who Dislike the Use of Paper Money

NATURE'S TRAP YIELDS BONES OF PREHISTORIC MONSTERS

Death traps of nature, as the asphalt pits of a western state are known, have given up skeletons that have enabled scientists to add to their knowledge of prehistoric animals. Ages ago strange birds and beasts that long since have vanished, in seeking to cross what appeared to be solid ground, would become mired in the sticky substance. Floundering about in an attempt to pull themselves free, they would attract the attention of an enemy. Both then would become trapped, and, in time, would slowly sink from sight. Thus nature has provided scientists with a record, although perhaps incomplete, of creatures that no longer exist. Working in the pits, experts have uncovered many well-preserved skulls of the saber-tooth tiger. The teeth, from which the animal was given its name, extended about 5 inches below the lower jaw. In those pits, many skulls have been found, among them that of another member of the cat family, which measured 19 inches through the cheek bones. Skeletons of the giant sloth, buffalo, horses, and wolves also have been taken from the deposits.

STRAPS ON STEPS OF AUTO KEEP LUGGAGE SAFE

To secure baggage on the running board of an auto, small reels, containing straps, are fastened to the bottom of the step. When not in use, the straps are wound up in the reels, which protect them from mud and water. Besides, they leave the running board clear and are always ready when wanted.

AIR MADE FRESH BY OZONE SUPPLIED BY MACHINE

Machine-made ozone, that invisible quality in the air that gives it freshness and life, is being used to aid in solving ventilating problems in schools and other places where large numbers of persons are brought together. Breathing robs the air of its healthfulness. Ozone, which is "concentrated" oxygen, supplies that element. By recent experiments in two schoolhouses of equal size, investigators determined that by generating this substance by electric motors and adding it to the air supply, health is guarded. In schools where the regular system of ventilation was employed, absences because of illness were three times as great.

WOMAN PAINTS STUFFED FISH SO THEY APPEAR ALIVE

Painting every spot, stripe, and fin of stuffed fish in colors rivaling those of nature, is the work of a woman scientist employed by the government. When placed in exhibition jars, the specimens outdo their living brothers in beauty. In addition, this artist makes drawings of almost invisible water creatures magnified many hundred times, and paints shells, queer dwellers in the ocean depths, and specimens of deep-sea life.

Woman Artist Who Makes Drawings of Fish and Other Water Creatures for the Government

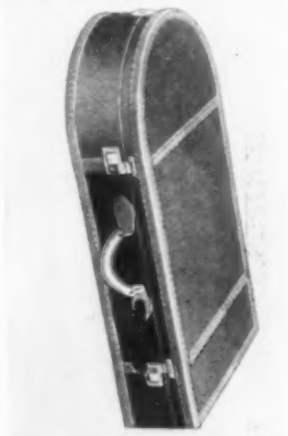
¶ Weighing 20¾ carats, a diamond of a rich brandy shade, has been found in an African mine. It is said to be the largest of its kind in the world and is valued at 50,000 dollars.

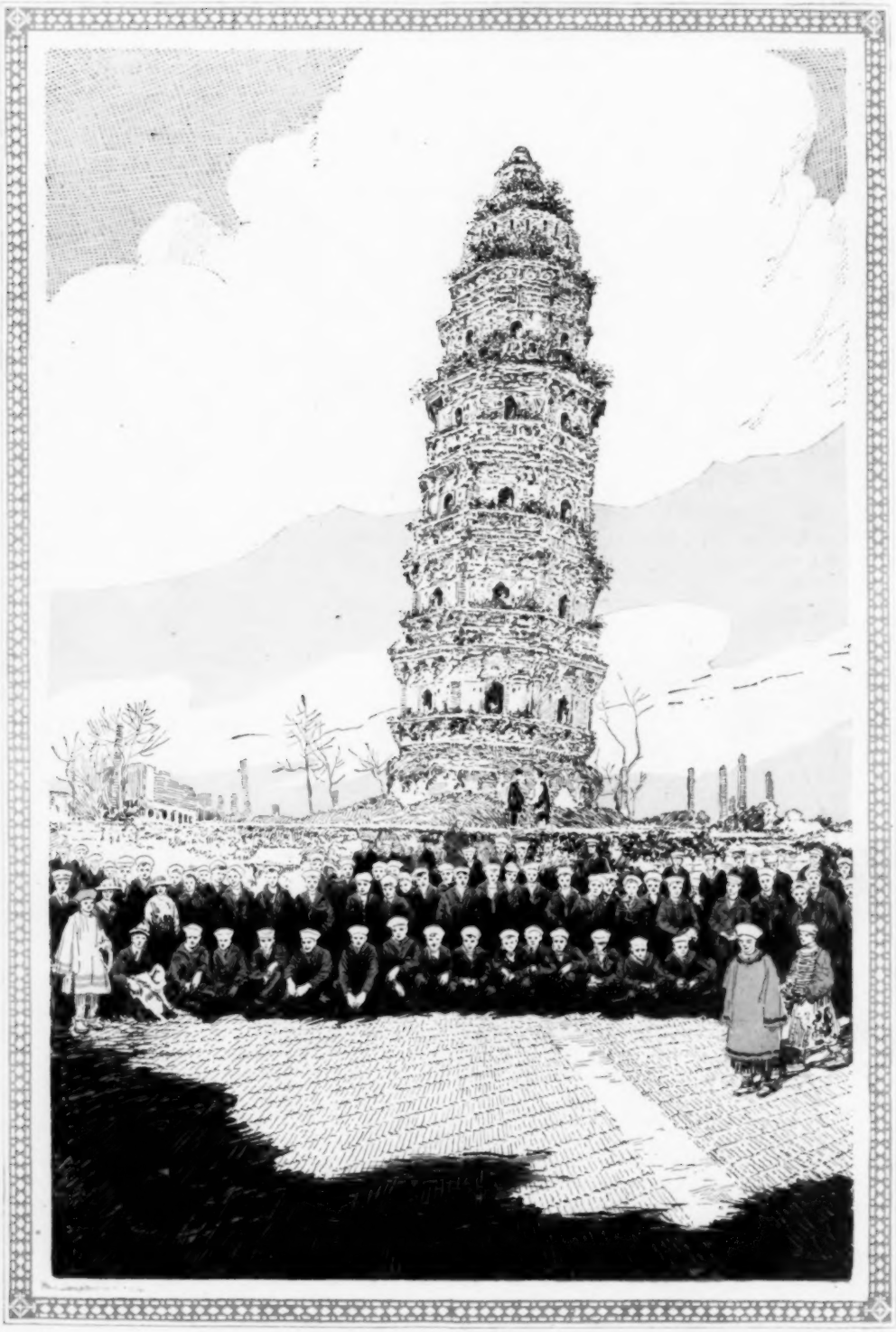
TRAVEL CASE KEEPS CLOTHES FIT ON LONG TOURS

Smart in appearance and easily handled, a travel case is being made with special compartments for everything needed by the traveler and special hangers to keep two men's suits in perfect press. Covered with black-enameled canvas, with reinforcement trimming strips of tan leather, the inside is lined with black-and-white-checked linen. Brown straps hold the different articles of wearing apparel in place.

Specially Designed Traveling Kit with Compartments to Keep Clothes in Good Condition

Though smaller than many suitcases, it packs systematically, in specially designed compartments, a dozen collars, 12 ties, the same number of handkerchiefs and hose, seven shirts and undergarments, two pairs of pajamas, a bathrobe, and a pair of shoes. Owing to the systematic way in which everything is stowed away, and to the shape of the carrier, clothes are kept in perfect condition.





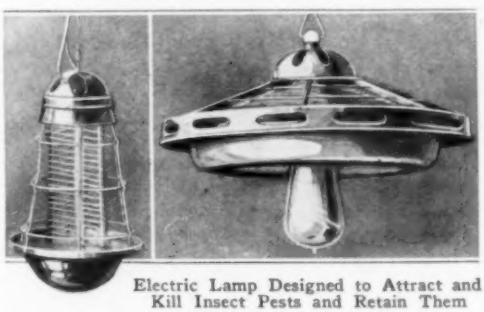
Pagoda, Known as the Leaning Tower of China, That Houses Strange Idols and Treasures of Painters' and Carvers' Art Representative of an Ancient Civilization

MYSTICISM OF THE FAR EAST IS BUILT INTO PAGODAS

In Asia, where life is a never-ending drama of contrasts, a strange blend of shops, slums, and palaces, out of which rise, like tall, tinted flowers, numberless pagodas, blue-tiled as the sky above and capped with gold, stand as monuments to a civilization that was old before Rome was born. In their shadows kings, khans, emperors, empresses, and priests have feasted and laughed and whispered and died for a thousand years. From walls 14 miles long and 100 feet high so that good spirits, who all fly at night at the 100-foot level, may not be inconvenienced in getting into Peking, may be seen the "Little Tired Pagoda" that lived far away in the north until it started to walk to the city, but grew weary just outside the gate of its dreams. Near by is a tower with a bell that harbors the soul of the maker's daughter, who jumped into the blazing metal so that her father should be saved from the emperor's wrath, leaving her embroidered shoe in her nurse's hand. And, "Hai!" say the mothers of Peking, as a low moaning follows the deep boom of it, "Hai, there is Ko Ngai who cries for her shoe!"

ELECTRIC LAMP KILLS FLIES, MOTHS, AND OTHER PESTS

To kill flies, moths, and mosquitoes, an electric lamp has been made that takes advantage of the strong attraction light

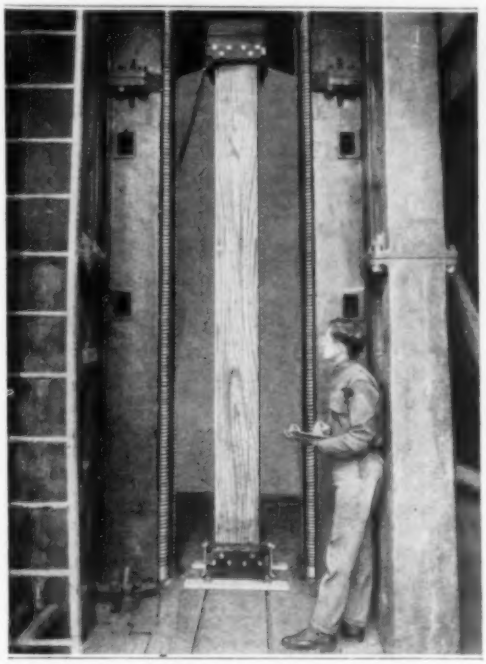


Electric Lamp Designed to Attract and Kill Insect Pests and Retain Them

possesses for these and other insects. The device is made in several forms, each providing a container to prevent the dead insects from falling to the floor. When filled, the trays are easily removed for cleaning. Fluttering about the hot globe until they come into contact with it and are killed, the insects are caught in the container beneath as they fall. The trap does not interfere with the illumination.

FEAR OF KNOTS IN TIMBER CAUSES MILLIONS WASTE

Knots have little effect upon the carrying capacity of timbers, according to government experts. Tests are said to have proved that builders in the past have



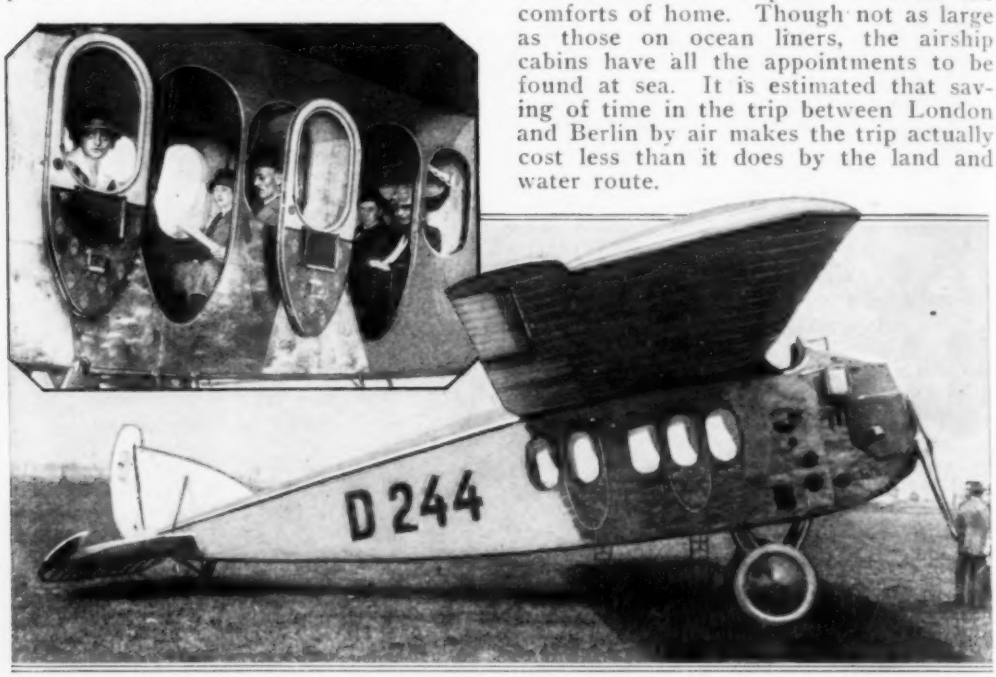
Giant Testing Machine, That Exerts Great Pressure, Determines Strength of Heavy Structural Beams

wasted millions of dollars by excessive use of lumber in underestimating the strength of wooden columns. For instance, a piece of southern yellow pine, 30 feet long and a foot square, will hold as much as 432,000 pounds, while the same-size column of Douglas fir will sustain a maximum of 406,300 pounds. Two-foot chunks of wood were used in the knot experiments that are said to have demonstrated that those imperfections have little relation to the column strength. Forty-five feet high and weighing 150,000 pounds, the machine used in the research is powerful enough to exert a pressure of 1,000,000 pounds. Pressure is applied by two vertical screws, driven by a 5-horsepower motor. The pressure exerted is measured by a weighing beam, after the fashion of an ordinary pit scale.

For scouring and cleaning aluminum dishes, cakes of soap mixed with steel wool are being made.

PASSENGER AIR LINERS HAVE PRIVATE CABINS

With furnishings equal to that of the best hotels, the de-luxe models of airplanes for service between Berlin and London have been completed, and passengers are now passing through the air between the two capitals with all the comforts of home. Though not as large as those on ocean liners, the airship cabins have all the appointments to be found at sea. It is estimated that saving of time in the trip between London and Berlin by air makes the trip actually cost less than it does by the land and water route.



Passengers in Cabin of First Passenger Plane to Run between Berlin and London: Though Service in Europe Started Early after Armistice, the German-British Route was Not Opened Up until Recently

DOT OF LIGHT TELLS TIME FOR PHOTO EXPOSURE

By turning a scale until a dot of light is seen, the exact time and shutter opening for taking a photograph is given on an exposure meter so small it may be slipped into the vest pocket. No figuring is necessary, and nothing is left to the judgment of the user, as the device is almost automatic. It is held between the eyes, and the light and scale are turned until a blue spot is seen on the glass. The figures at the top then give the time for the exposure.

HELICOPTER STAYS IN AIR FOR FIFTEEN MINUTES

Rising 20 feet from the ground and hovering in the air for 15 minutes, a British helicopter is declared to have proved a success in recent tests. Although the details were closely guarded by the government, it is known that the machine carried passengers and a "military load" weighing 1,000 pounds. Efforts will be made at once to adapt the craft for lateral flights as well as vertical.

COLD ROBS FROGS OF CROAK

Thousands of croakless frogs are marketed annually by a man in a middle-western city. He rears and fattens them in his back yard, in water-filled concrete trenches. By fitting the ditches with a refrigerating plant, he fools them into believing that it is winter and thus stops their croaking. New stock is obtained from near-by creeks and marshes.

PLANE REFUELED IN MID-AIR THROUGH RUBBER HOSE

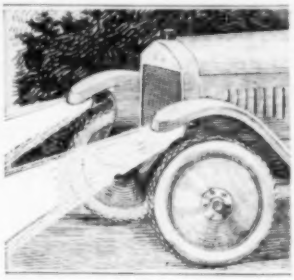
Refueling an airplane in the air has been successfully accomplished. It was done in two minutes while two planes were rushing along, one above the other, at a speed of 90 miles an hour. Flying 40 feet above, the supply craft with its load of gasoline dropped a steel-wire-incased rubber hose to the one beneath it, through which the fuel passed into that machine's tank. Because of the hazards, the feat was not attempted until after the airmen had practiced it many times. A few drops of gasoline on the hot exhaust pipes might have resulted in a disastrous explosion.

X-RAY USED FOR EIGHT HOURS IN CANCER TREATMENT

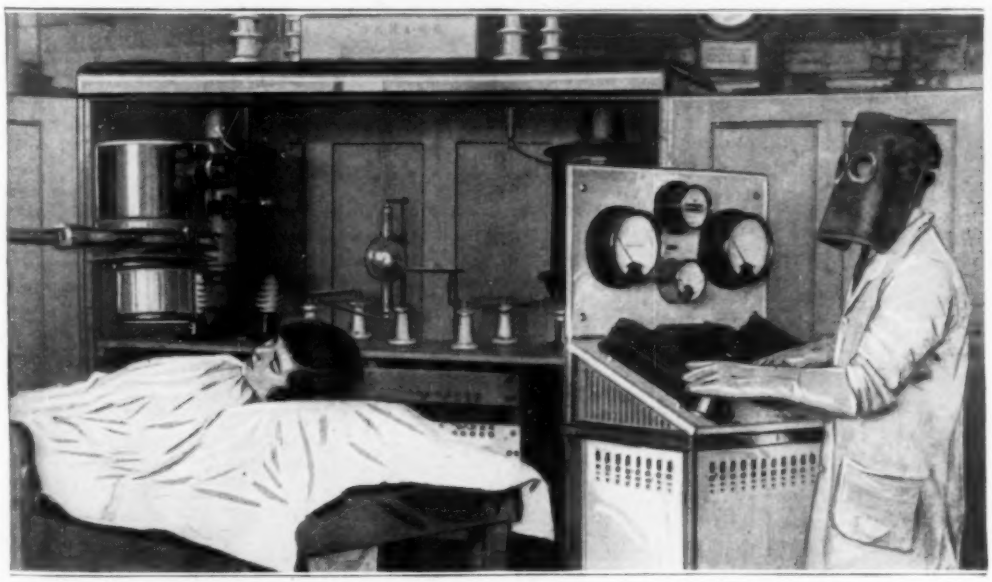
In seeking a sure cure for some forms of cancer, German scientists have applied a powerful X-ray to the patients for continuous periods of eight hours. It is claimed that this long exposure kills the germ cells, while the healthy tissue remains unaffected. Only one treatment is given, during the length of which the sufferer is kept on a surgeon's table while the physician watches from behind a screen. Lead glass, or shields, that the rays will not penetrate, afford protection for the attendants. A current of 200,000 volts is employed in the treatment.

AUTO LIGHTS UNDER FENDERS REMOVE STRONG GLARE

By having all of its rays strike directly on the road ahead, an automobile lamp attached by a single bolt to the underside of the front fender inside the wheel, does away with blinding glare of ordinary high-powered headlights that frequently annoy those driving at night. Its shaft of light, thrown for 300 feet, is low enough to avoid the eyes of approaching motorists and cyclists, and clearly shows the road from both directions, preventing many accidents and making dimming unnecessary. A bracket allows the level of the light to be raised or lowered with ease.



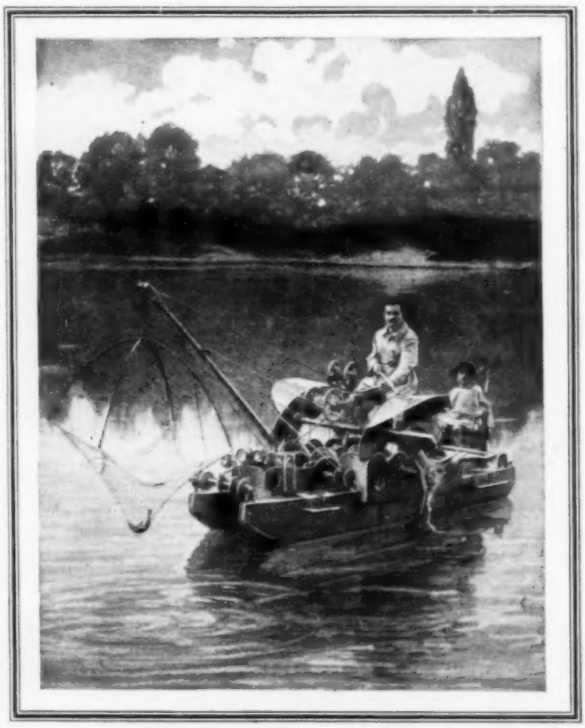
¶ With a mixture of half sawdust and the remainder chalk and chemicals, a scientist is reported to have made artificial wood by subjecting the combination to heavy pressure. It can be used as ordinary lumber, and is said to be as tough as oak, and rot-proof. It also withstands more heat than real timber.



Cancer Victim being Exposed to the Action of High-Powered X-Ray during Single Eight-Hour Treatment, Used to Combat the Disease by Scientists in Europe

BOAT BUILT OF OLD SCRAPS IS MOVED BY GAS

Curious-looking junks in Chinese ports are rivaled by some of the boats plying the River Po, between the Alps and Apennine mountains, in northern Italy. One such craft was built by a fisherman from metal and boards found in a scrap heap. While in appearance it is crude, a small motor pushes it along at a speed that seems a rapid pace in comparison with the boats moved by oars. As the course of the Po is marked by sand bars and shallows, fishermen are kept constantly on the alert. At some points though, where high banks confine the channel, its bed is above the surface of the surrounding land. From farms along the river the roughly made boats present an odd appearance as they move back and forth with their cargoes. There are still evidences of canals and roads built along the winding Po in old Roman days, but save for the occasional use of an engine, there is little difference between the types of boats used on this stream then and now.



Strange Boat, Built from Scraps Found on Junk Pile and Propelled by Small Motor, Used in River-Fishing Trade

SWIMMING POOL IS WARMED BY A HEATING PLANT

By the installation of a large heating system, a mid-west city has solved the problem of keeping its municipal swimming pool sufficiently warm for bathing even on cool days. In a recent test, the plant raised the temperature of the pool 11° in 10 hours. As a result, it is expected that the swimming season will be considerably lengthened.

BLOND RACE FOUND IN SAHARA BY DANISH SCIENTIST

Preliminary reports from a Danish scientist, now on his way home from an expedition to the central and western parts of the Sahara Desert, tell of his visits among the Tuaregs, whose ruler has his headquarters on the Ahaggar mountain plateau in Morocco. In the villages of these nomadic Arabs he found a blond race, of whose existence unconfirmed tales have been current for a long time. This people bears every mark of being a remnant of some northern tribe that may have invaded Africa long before historic times. The scientist describes them — both men and women — as possessing great beauty and being very careful of their fair complexion. The men, he says, wear dark veils for this purpose, use rouge and powder, and bedeck themselves with ornaments. The women, on the contrary, go unveiled and do not seem to be as vain as the men. Agriculture, goat and sheep herding are their occupations, but the women do not work, having black servants even for household duties. They live in mud huts and are fond of "parties," at which music, singing, and story-telling form the chief entertainment.

¶Cancer is not yielding to research and radium treatment, according to figures compiled recently by an insurance company. The mean average of cancer deaths, throughout the United States, according to this report, is more than 90 per 100,000. Eighty-five per cent of those are persons over 40 years of age.

VICTIMS OF GAS ARE SAVED BY RESPIRATOR MASK

To save the lives of persons overcome by gas, a mask has been made so that a constant stream of fresh oxygen is fed into the lungs and then exhausted into the air, the process being similar to that of breathing.

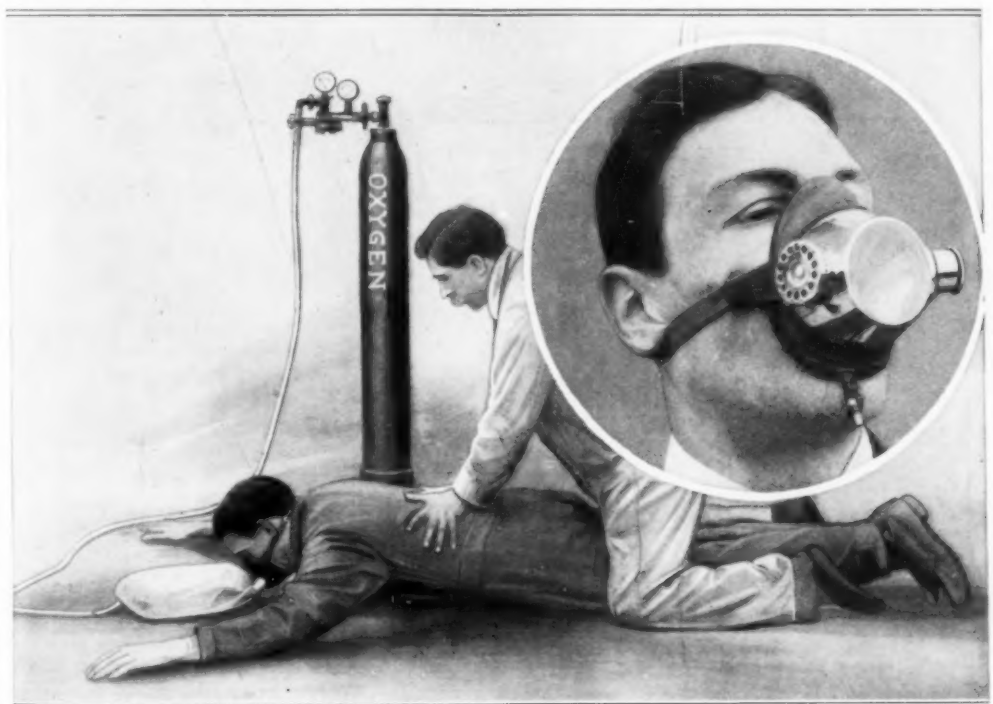
Lung and heart specialists, after tests in France, declared that the apparatus seldom will fail in bringing an asphyxiated person back to life, unless the victim is already dead.

Although chiefly intended for use in factories, where the danger from suffocation is often encountered, as in illuminating-gas, carbon-dioxide, and electric-battery plants, the device also is being used in mines and on beaches.

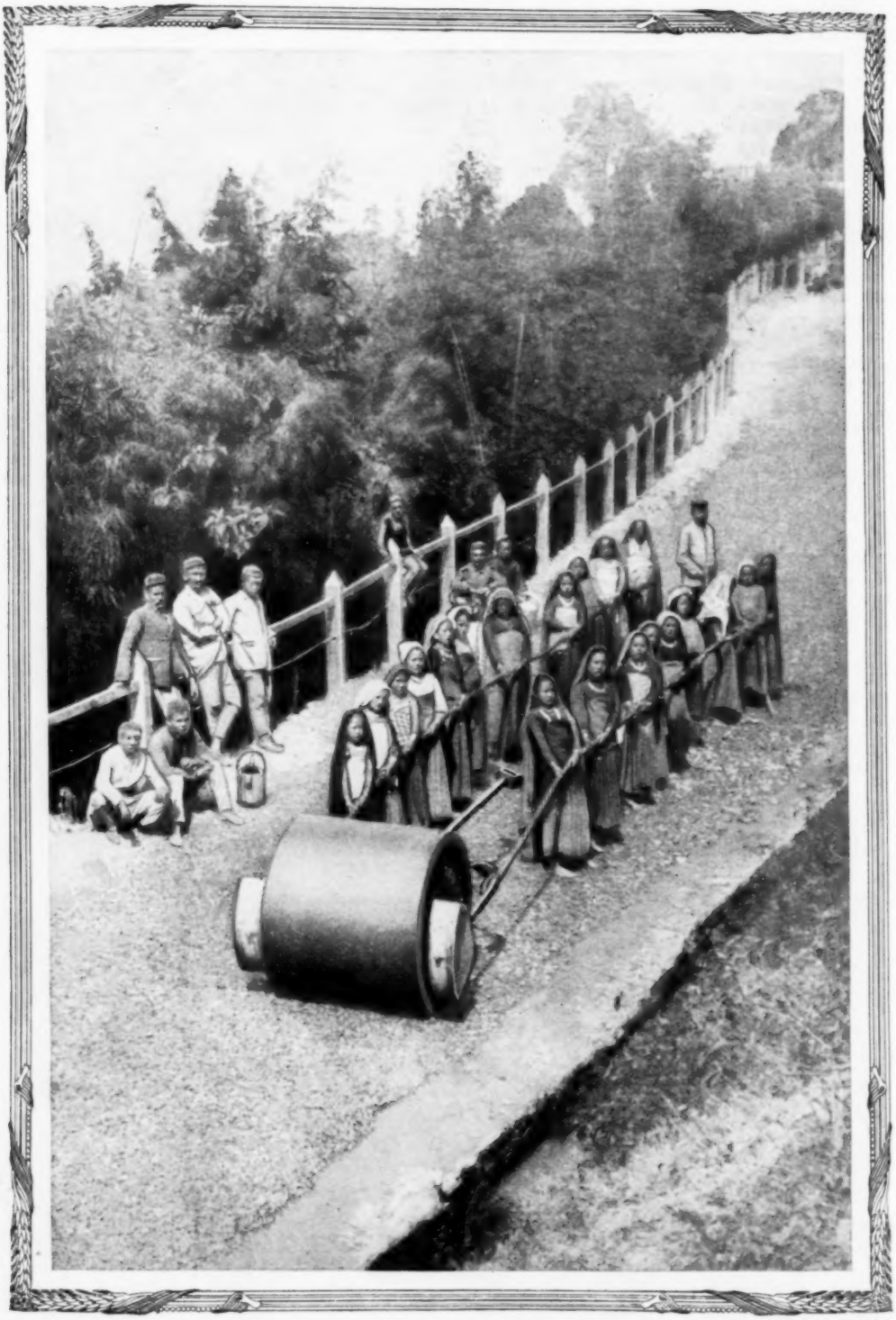
Prompt application of artificial respiration is necessary when a victim is stricken. First aid is of great help in retarding the poisonous effect of the fumes on the blood. This usually requires stretching the patient flat, rubbing the spine, and moving his arms and legs vigorously until an oxygen tank can be applied.

Under the method now in general use, however, inhalation and exhalation by the patient is done through a single connection with the tank. The result is that, when pure oxygen enters into the lungs by inhaling, it becomes at once stale by coming into contact with the poison in the patient's system. This impure air returns and mixes with pure oxygen by the action of exhalation, and is taken back and forth into the lungs.

This is prevented in the new apparatus, as the mask is fitted with two valves and a pneumatic rubber cushion, attached to the face by a strap. The cushion creates a vacuum, preventing the oxygen from leaking through facial irregularities. One of the valves is connected with the oxygen tube, while the other discharges impure air thrown off by the action of exhalation. Both valves open and close automatically. While the patient inhales, the first valve opens and lets the oxygen flow into the lungs, at the same time allowing the other one to close, thus shutting off outside air. In exhaling, the former closes and the latter opens to let impure oxygen escape. Since the victim breathes nothing but pure oxygen, the chances of reviving him are increased more than 50 per cent, it is claimed by those who have conducted many tests on victims of gas and smoke.



Mask Used to Save Lives of Persons Overcome by Gas: Insert Shows Valves through Which Oxygen Enters and Impure Air is Discharged from the Patient's Lungs



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Women of India, Heavily Garbed, Working on the Mountain Roads of Northern Bengal, Hauling a Heavy, Crudely Made Roller up a Steep Grade While the Men Look On

TRADITIONS OF INDIA HOLD NATIVES IN SLAVERY

Bound by traditions handed down for countless generations, the natives of India prefer the methods of the past to the comforts of modern civilization. Held in check by their religious beliefs and the caste organization of society, they battle against every effort to introduce labor-saving devices. In one instance, the effort of an English company to install an incline railway to carry passengers and freight up a steep height almost caused a revolt. "What can we do if there is nothing for us to carry?" demanded the natives, who had been acting as beasts of burden. Even after months of argument, they remained unconvinced that the object was not to rob them of their means of livelihood, and so today the road, that was built despite their protests, carries only passengers, while freight is still transported on human backs. Women are often used to carry heavy burdens and in the making of roads. The men seldom engage in manual labor.

TOY DUCKS SEALED IN GLOBE HALF FILLED WITH WATER

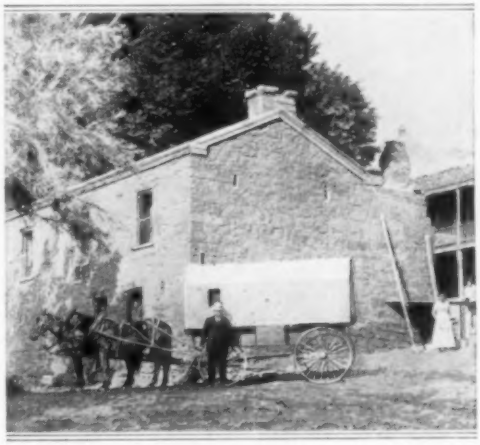
For the amusement of children, celluloid globes are being made in which toy ducks float about. The balls are half filled with water and are decorated in fantastic tints and flowery figures. They are sealed in the middle and will stand considerable abuse without breaking or leaking. They come in many different colors and some have fish inside instead of the ducks.

MOVABLE JOINT WON'T LEAK

Having but four parts, a flexible pipe joint has been made of brass. The greater the pressure of water, air, or gas on its rubber seal, the tighter it becomes and the less the opportunity for leakage. As the seal is inflated and not expanded, it automatically takes care of either high or low pressure.

OLD MORMON CASTLE KEPT AS FRONTIER-DAYS RELIC

One of the few remaining relics of the vanishing frontier in Utah, the famous old Windsor Castle, built many years ago



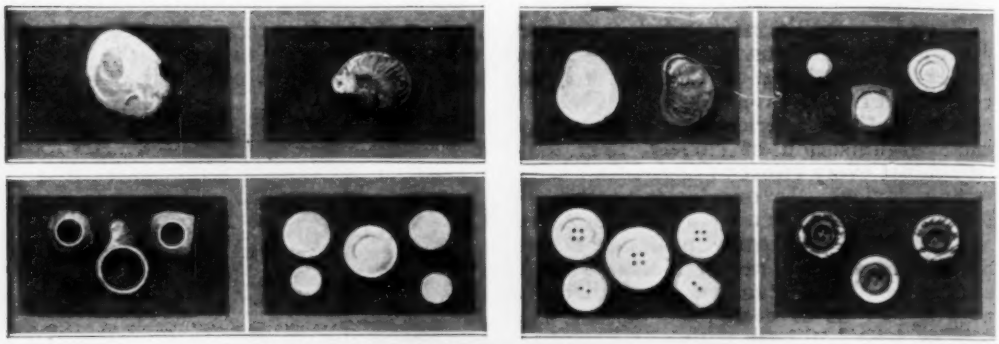
Mormon Castle, Relic of Vanishing Frontier, That has been Marked as Historical Site

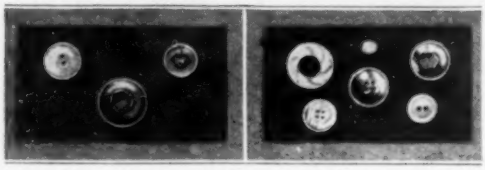
by Brigham Young of the Mormon Church, is to be preserved. This substantial structure of sandstone was in reality a fortress, strong enough to withstand a siege. Loopholes were provided in the walls at strategic points. In the valleys round about were quartered vast herds of cattle, and naturally the castle was the headquarters for the interests of the church. Now the tract of land on which it stands has been set aside by the government and will be known as the Pipe Spring National Monument. All features of historical interest will be preserved.

TWO WHEELS SHARPEN KNIFE AND SCISSORS BLADES

Sharpening of knives and scissors is made easy by a device consisting of two grinding wheels placed close together on a small holder. The blades are moved back and forth between the two, giving them a razor-like edge. Protection is afforded for both hands as the blades cannot slip while being ground.

TURNING "IVORY NUTS" FROM TREE INTO BUTTONS





From Left to Right, the Slow Evolution of an "Ivory Nut" into Buttons

Buttons are made from the "ivory nut" of a palmlike tree growing along river banks in South America and Panama. After being dried, the shells are cracked and the kernels cut into slabs. Sometimes tons of nuts must be cut up before there is even a small supply of pieces large enough for overcoat buttons. A turner makes blanks of them for various-sized buttons and then holes are drilled by machine. To open the pores for coloring matter, they are first softened in water and then dyed and polished by ivory waste and chalk in a moving cylinder. Bright, dull, satin, and polished finishes are given.

LIGHTS MARK STOLEN AUTO AS WARNING TO POLICE

As a warning to police that the car has been stolen, lights on the front and rear license plates have been made to burn when the car is in motion unless they have been shut off by the owner's key. By pressing a pedal at the driver's seat, the ignition system is locked, a large red cross appears over the license plates, and these are each marked by two small lights. The cross cannot be removed until unlocked by the driver's key. If a thief breaks the motor lock and drives away, the flaming red marks over the license plates give a silent alarm.

Red Cross over License Plate That Is Warning the Auto is Stolen; Only Owner's Key Removes It

GROUND PHONE TO HELP SAVE THE LIVES OF MINERS

From a war-time instrument, the geophone, a sound-ranging apparatus, has been developed by government experts into a peace-time device that may be used effectively in locating entombed miners, mine-fire areas, and to reduce accidents resulting from blasting. It was first invented by the French to detect enemy underground operations. Later improvements have increased its sensitiveness, and tests have indicated that under certain conditions it will register the pounding of a sledge hammer through 3,000 feet of solid rock; 2,000 or more feet through coal; 500 feet through mine "cover," and 300 feet through clay. Built on the principle of a seismograph and mechanical in action, the machine consists of a flat iron ring, from the center of which is suspended a lead weight fastened with a bolt through two metal disks. A rubber tube conveys the vibrations to the ear.

BEHIND THE SCENES IN A GREAT MUSEUM

Priceless Treasures of Art and Nature Brought from All Parts of the World are Prepared by Skilled Artists and Then Carefully Guarded

BY J. T. EDWARDS JONES

HIDDEN away behind the priceless treasures to be found in a great museum are the workshops of the skilled artists who restore to lifelike form specimens of strange beasts and birds gathered from all parts of the world. While hardy adventurers are risking their lives on jungle trails and at outposts of civilization gathering material, these scientists, working with microscopes and strange tools, reconstruct a prehistoric monster from a single bit of fossil, and give a semblance of reality to a dried piece of fur that would almost deceive Nature herself.

Tawny lions, striped tigers and zebras, spotted leopards and jaguars, giraffes, black, brown, grizzly, and white bears, antelopes of all sizes and colors, buffaloes, and foxes of many hues, are represented in a veritable Noah's ark of exhibits gathered together by explorers so that wild life may be studied in the midst of civilization and without the hardships of perilous trips to strange lands.

Under the skilled hand of the hidden artisans, these treasures in furs, made to assume the appearance of life, are shown in their natural surroundings, stalking their prey, guarding their young, engaged in mortal combat with an enemy or in the endless search for food. Animals seen in a zoo generally are poor prisoners who have adapted themselves to a hopeless level of an inane and artificial existence, while those in a museum have been so skillfully restored that they actually seem to live and breathe, with all the sleek strength and beauty of life.

To obtain these results requires that the worker be something of a wizard, an artist, a mechanic and, of course, a zoölogist. While the methods employed are generally those of a sculptor, the modern taxidermist is rigidly confined to the exact lines laid down by nature. Absolute accuracy in every detail is required, nothing being left to the imagination. In form, color, the arching of a neck, the raising of a cautious foot, and in the background, bits of trees and brush, all as nature, and not man, planned it.

First comes the tanning and preparation of the hide, an art in itself. Machines known as "kickers," consisting of two huge, mechanical legs worked by electricity, dance a jig on the tough pelt until it is softened and turned into leather. It is then placed in a cleaning machine, containing a quantity of sawdust, and revolved until it is thoroughly cleansed. Then it is placed in storage, where it remains until the time when the taxidermist is ready to resurrect the animal to an appearance of life.

The old-fashioned process of "stuffing" is a thing of the past, and the replacement in the older museums of specimens

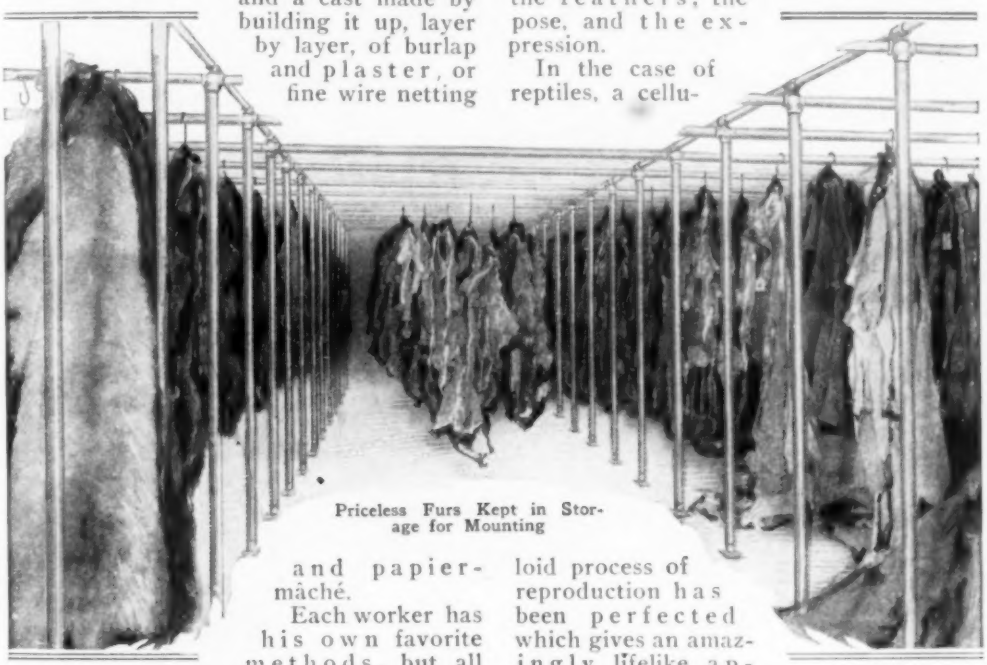
Under the Sculpturing Hand of the Taxidermist the Plaster Mold Grows toward the Animal's Natural Form

Papier-Mâché and White Cement Supply the Ferocious Countenances That Glare from Glass Cases at Museum Visitors

Selecting Eyes from Among Thousands to Fit the Expression of the Finished Specimen Before It is Exposed to Public View

by the new process represents a considerable item of annual expense. Like a sculptor, the modern taxidermist generally experiments and crystallizes his ideas into a small clay model before he ventures on the actual work. Having accomplished this, he prepares a "core" on which to model the beast.

If available, the leg bones and skull are used to insure exact proportions. If not, he builds up the clay body in characteristic attitude to measurements taken in the field. After the model is finished, it must be reproduced in some lighter and stronger material. For this purpose, a plaster mold in several pieces is taken and a cast made by building it up, layer by layer, of burlap and plaster, or fine wire netting and papier-mâché.



Priceless Furs Kept in Storage for Mounting

Each worker has his own favorite methods, but all result in a light, strong duplicate, called a manikin. Over it, the skin, that first has been poisoned against moths and vermin in a sealed room, is drawn and permanently adjusted. Lastly, the muzzle and nostrils are carefully molded in papier-mâché and the eyes are set.

It now remains to mount the animal, to do which a study must be made of its anatomy, habits, and characteristic attitudes in the wild state. A klipspringer assumes its natural poses only on rocks. A sloth cuts an impossible figure apart from its beloved tree, and bears, for instance, must be represented as they really appear on their native heath, with a proper background.

For this work the taxidermist requires the services of the artist who adds realistic accessories in the form of vegetation, trees, and rocks which merge into the background. Having thus secured a natural scene, the case is ready to take its place in the exhibition halls.

Bird taxidermy is an art by itself. The skin is first relaxed by a thorough damping, and then cured with chemicals. An artificial body is made of cork or wood wool with a neck of wrapped tow fitted into the skin. The head, wings, and feet are securely wired, and the bird made to adopt the position it would assume in life. This part is purely mechanical, the difficulty lying in the proper adjustment of the feathers, the pose, and the expression.

In the case of reptiles, a celluloid process of reproduction has been perfected which gives an amazingly lifelike appearance to the models. While the details of the process are kept secret, the plaster mold plays a prominent part in in the operation. The result is a practically unbreakable model.

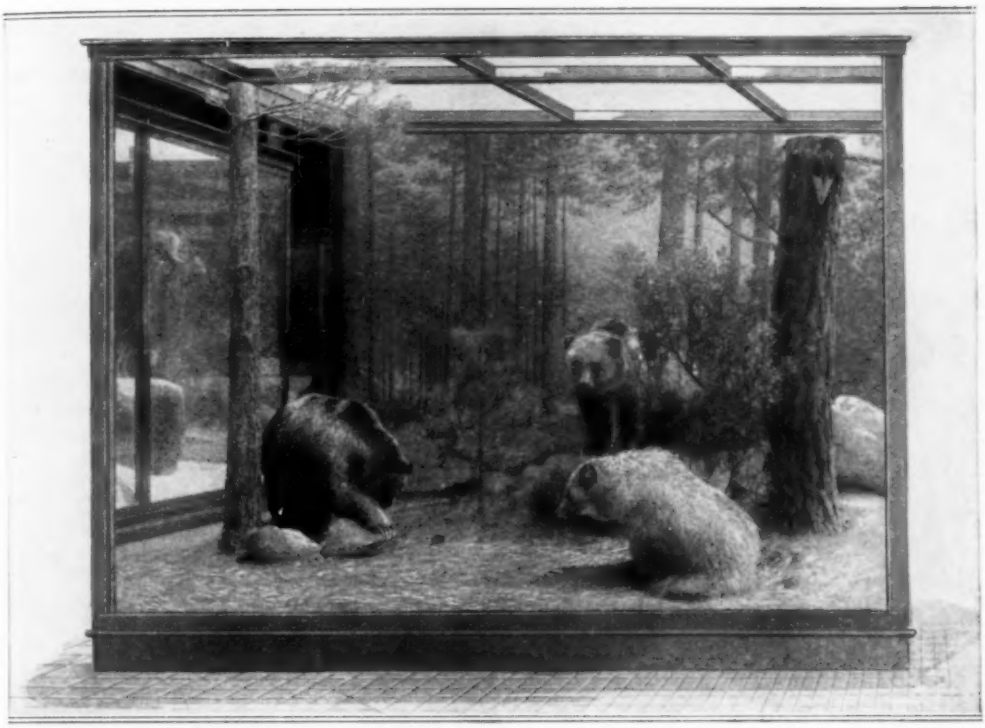
Fishes placed in the exhibits also are plaster casts, taken from molds. Usually the natural fins and tails are utilized. The greatest difficulty is in the coloring, the artist being forced to reproduce the infinite shades and colors of nature.

After the specimens have been placed on exhibition, they are guarded as carefully as the crown jewels of a European kingdom. In many cases, they are displayed only under artificial light, as it has been found that daylight and the sun's rays have a destructive influence.

On Plaster Casts, the Artist's Brush Creates Tinted Scales and Silver Skins That Graced the Living Fishes in Their Deep-Sea Homes

Accurate Copies of Their Bony Frameworks must be Made Before Plaster Casts of the Animals can be Built in Life-like Poses

Preparation of Feathered Subjects Presents Difficult Tasks in the Arrangement of the Plumage, Characteristic Expressions, and Attitudes of the Birds



Shaggy Forest Beasts Taken from Their Native Haunts and the Lap of Nature, to Repose, Serene and Lifelike, in a Museum, through Skill of Taxidermists

As the furs are almost priceless, glass cases in which they are kept are constantly guarded, day and night, against thieves and fire. In addition, they are chemically treated to protect them from moths and insects.

The glass cases in which the mounted specimens are kept are tightly sealed, and there the animals remain in their natural surroundings, posed in characteristic pursuits, so lifelike that the visitor pauses to watch the next act in the drama.

GEAR WITHOUT COGS HAILED AS ENGINEERING MARVEL

Defying many of the known laws of mechanical engineering, a small piece of steel mechanism was tested recently at an eastern technical school. Without a single cog or tooth, the apparatus, which is in the form of a shaft, was connected to a 5-horsepower motor and speeded up to 17,000 revolutions a minute. The other end, however, was turning only five times an hour, but was able to lift a weight of 10 tons. Simple in construction, the device consisted of the driving shaft that fitted into the end of the driven shaft, turning freely in it on ball bearings. Instead of resting on a journal, the outside, or driving shaft, turns between three or four rollers, one or two of which are larger than the others. These run inside of a steel ring, slightly off center. As the inner rollers turn on the high-speed shaft, the outer ring becomes the driving gear. Difference in the diameters of the parts establishes the rate of reduction in speed and increase in power.

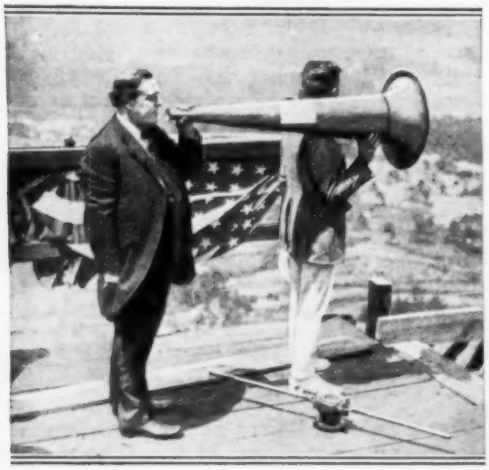
OLD AUTO TIRES ARE BURNED TO SAVE GRAPE CROPS

Worn-out auto tires are used in some western vineyards serving the same purpose as smudge pots, which prevent damage by frosts. Tires bought from a junk dealer for about $30 per ton are saturated on the inside with oil. They are placed about the vineyard in piles of three or four and, when lighted, they furnish enough heat not only to ward off frost but also to save the grower trouble and expense of a second pruning.

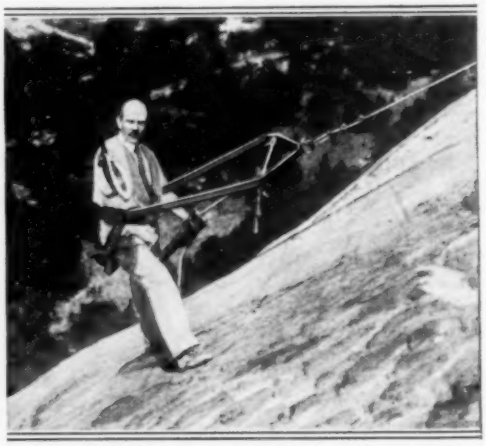
"LOST CAUSE" MEMORIAL WORK IS STARTED

After seven years of planning, the carving of a huge memorial to the Army of the Confederacy, out of the solid granite side of Stone Mountain in Georgia, was begun recently. With appropriate ceremonies, a well-known sculptor applied the chisel to the figure of Gen. Robert E. Lee, which, with that of Jefferson Davis, "Stonewall" Jackson, and other Confederate leaders, composes the first section. Many difficulties had to be surmounted before the work could be started. One was the placing of a guiding design on the steep weather-worn side of the mountain. That was finally accomplished by the use of a large magic lantern, the pictures of models, greatly enlarged, being projected on the surface that had been coated with a sensitive substance which reproduced them. Those illustrations were then made permanent by chemical baths. Suspended hundreds of feet above the ground in harness chairs, the artisans will chisel out the

Bald Face of Granite Mountain Top in Georgia from Which is being Carved Out the Heroic Figures of the Former Leaders of the Confederate States



Governor Delivering Address at Ceremonies That Marked Start of Confederate Memorial

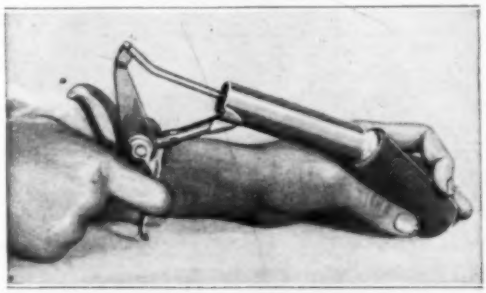


How Sculptor is Swung from Chair So He can Work on Side of Mountain

huge figures, using power-driven cutting instruments for the less delicate modeling. Tons of rock must be cut away before the first group will have been completed. Stone Mountain, 1,686 feet above sea level, was the scene of many hard-fought skirmishes during the Civil War. In the territory surrounding it, one of the most remarkable campaigns of the war, in point of strategy, was carried on in 1864. It ended in the battle of Atlanta in which General McPherson, one of the most capable Union commanders, was killed.

GUN SHOOTS ICE CREAM INTO SHELL HOLDER

With a gun-shaped filler, worked by a trigger, ice cream is shot into crisp, tasty cake shells covered with chocolate, a product recently introduced as a soda-fountain novelty. The cylinder container, wrapped in wax paper to prevent leaking in hot weather and to keep the fingers clean, is held in one hand, while the other dips the gun into ice cream, presses the barrel close to the filler, and then shoots



Plunger of Gun Pushing Ice Cream into Cake Shell Covered with Chocolate

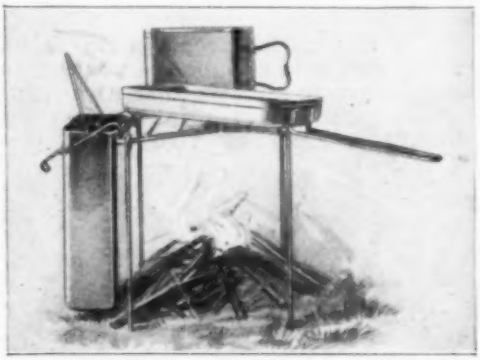
the cream by pulling the trigger. A plunger pushes the ice into the cake, thus packing it firmly.

TAXI METERS USED IN ROME

Before the time of Julius Cæsar, ancient Romans were called upon to travel about in hired chariots for which they paid by a crude method of counting distances, according to recently discovered records. The "taxicab" had a device like an hour-glass, by which a pebble was dropped into a bowl for about every 5,000 feet traveled. At the end of the journey, the driver would count the stones, thus arriving at the amount of fare to be paid by the passenger.

POCKET KIT COOKS MEAL FOR TWO PERSONS

In a pocket mess kit recently made are a frying pan, kettle, pail, cup, and grid



Mess Kit That Fits in Pocket, Containing Frying Pan, Kettle, Cup, Pail, Grid, and Broiler

for cooking over an open fire. This set is large enough to prepare a meal for two persons. For picnics, a set, slightly larger, but containing two cups, two frying pans, a kettle holding four cups, and a grid big enough to hold all pans and kettles, has been devised.

LIES SHORTEN SIGHT SO DEVICE DETECTS THEM

By examining the eye with an apparatus, called the retinoscope, an eastern scientist seeks to show whether a person is telling a lie. He bases the test on a theory that lying is a mental strain resulting in temporary nearsightedness.

Testing the Eye with Lens, That is Aimed to Show Whether Person is Telling Falsehood

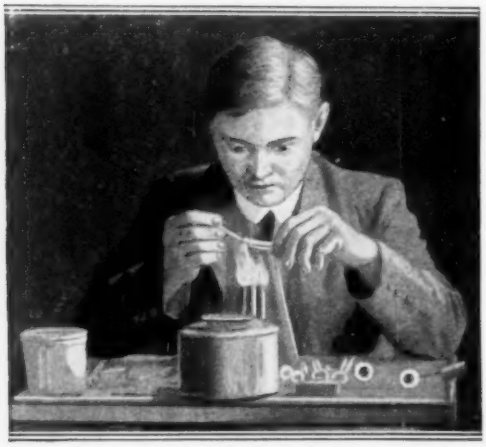
The detector indicates whether the subject's vision is changed by questioning.

SCIENCE RIVALS NATURE IN MAKING EYES

Artists, Working from Painted Copy, Bring Out Thousands of Tints and Shades So as to Almost Defy Detection

BY A. N. MIRZAOFF

OUT of every 300 people in the United States, it is said, one is wearing an artificial eye, but, owing to improvements in their manufacture during the past few years, they are difficult to detect, perfectly matched, and are moved by the muscles of the eye socket.



Hollow Crystallike Stems are Attached to Melted Glass for Inflating the Bubble

The first glass eyes are believed to have been made and sold in the city of Venice in the year 1580, by a Florentine jeweler, who painted glass balls with enamel, covered with a thin sheet of polished lead to prevent irritation and fading of the colors. Enameled gold was tried later, but proved too heavy to be held in the eye cavity. Pieces of leather on which artists reproduced the iris and pupil on a white background, attaching them to velour-covered wires that fastened over the ears, also were tried.

At the beginning of the 18th century, the perfectly shaped glass eye, having the brilliancy of the natural organ, made its appearance, resulting in the present article that does everything but see.

These are blown out of glass by artists, working from a painted copy of the natural eye, so that every detail may be exact. The workbench of the eye maker is a riot of colored glass tubes and slender sticks of crystal, from which he gets the thousands of tints that combine to make up the shades.

For the eyeball, a white or opaque tube is selected, and from it a small globe is blown by means of a torch and blowpipe. Tipping and revolving the ball downward in the flame, tends to cause the molten glass to flow toward the bottom, forming a thicker, tapering wall at the front, where the ground tone of blue, gray, or brown, is traced in a circle from one of the colored sticks of crystal. Into the center of this the pupil is inserted.

Ground Shades for the Iris are Traced from Sticks of Brightly Colored Glass

Globes Blown from Tubes of Opaque Glass Form the Balls of Artificial Eyes

Few natural eyes are of solid colors, the iris generally being made up of slight brushlike lines and dots, radiating out-

EYES OF THE ANCIENTS

Above: Funeral Mask with Artificial Eyes; Also Orbs as Follows: No. 1, Wood; 2, from Mummy; 3, Ivory; 4, Lead; 5, Early Chinese; 6, German; 7, Enamel; 8, Old Glass; 9, Seventeenth-Century Glass; 10, Venetian; 11, Marble; 12, Silver

ward from the pupil. These the worker imitates with threads of glass he has first drawn out over the torch, touching their ends to the globe as he slowly revolves it to insure evenness, afterward putting in the tiny veins so often seen scattered over the white of the normal eye. Shaping the "reform" eye, as it is called, and coating it with a covering of clear crystal to blend the colors and give it natural brilliancy, must be done before the stem is withdrawn for sealing the shell at the back, finishing a task that requires less than an hour.

In a well-equipped establishment an artificial eye can be fitted with as much ease, and in the same space of time, as is required for a pair of shoes, some dealers carrying from 50,000 to 100,000 in all the ordinary color combinations. For those that are made to order, not more than two or three days is necessary to turn out a perfect match, for although most of the materials are imported, as well as the stock eyes, a scarcity of them rarely happens under normal conditions.

Many manufacturers keep one or two duplicates of the eyes of their customers constantly on hand for emergencies, since their delicate construction exposes them to frequent breaking under the handling of the wearer, and the action of the acids of the body. Instances of artificial eyes exploding are known, but seldom with any injury to the socket, the vacuum on their interior drawing the broken pieces inside the shell.

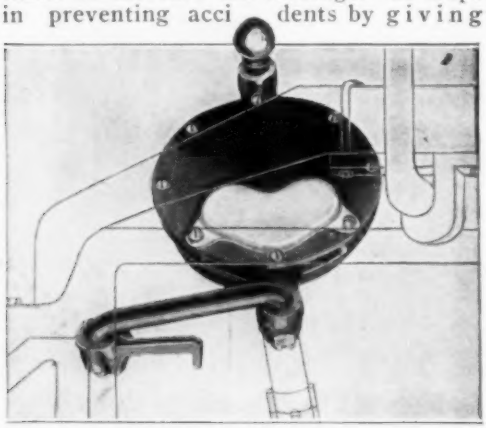
Loss of the eye is often accompanied by destruction of all or parts of the lids, which are now reproduced on the artificial eye in glass, colored to match the skin and worn as a spectacle. A drooping or paralyzed lid can be supported in normal position, by a small shelf of clear crystal built across the eye. After a natural eye has been removed, temporary globes are inserted into the cavity for a period of two months to enlarge it for the regular one that follows.

Accounts of the ancient peoples show that as early as the days of the Egyptian emperors, attempts to reproduce the human eye in mummies and statues were made by embalmers and artists. From buried tombs along the banks of the Nile, there have been taken bodies having crudely made artificial eyes, formed of plaster or wax and precious stones, covered with white-enameled shells of silver and other metals, pierced by holes to represent the pupils.

Many, found in the same locality, had eyes of baked and painted clay, or rounded out of marble, studded with colored gems. A funeral mask made in the first century contained a pair of perfectly shaped eyes in imitation of nature's work, evidence of man's untiring efforts to produce by his own hands the masterpieces of creation which surrounded him.

STEERING JERKS AND SHOCKS LESSENED FOR AUTOISTS

To make small automobiles steer as easily as large cars, a device has been made to increase the leverage. It helps in preventing accidents by giving the driver better control under all conditions, as it holds the machine to the road and will follow ruts. Fitting directly into the steering post, it acts as a stabilizer and equalizer, and all vibration is absorbed before it can reach the hands. No dirt can get into the moving parts, which operate in oil.



Steering Device for Small Cars That Eliminates Shocks and Operates in a Bath of Oil

MILLIONS OF GOLF BALLS ARE USED IN U. S.

Because of the growing popularity of the game, experts estimate that 13,200,000 golf balls will be bought this year in the United States compared with 12,000,000 in the preceding 12 months. About one-quarter of the supply comes from England and Scotland. Between September, 1922, and April 30, 1923, American dealers imported from those two countries 1,927,697 of the little white pellets, valued at $792,641. With those figures as a basis, trade authorities judge that the total of importations this year will be 3,140,000 balls, with a value of $1,297,000.

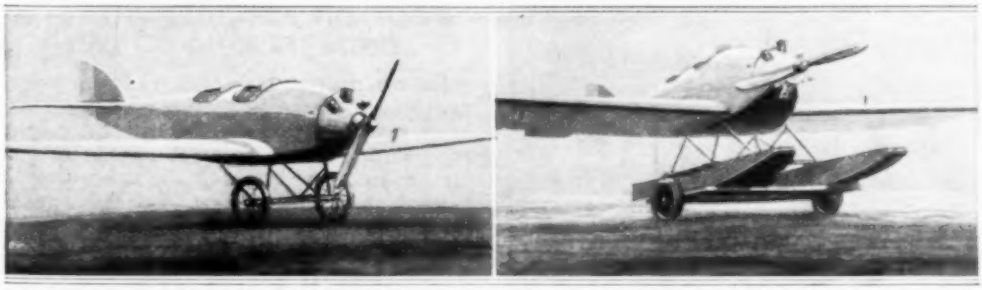
TEN TONS OF HANDS BUILT FOR SCENE IN MOVIE

Plaster Hands, Each of Which Is Larger than a Man, That were Made for Giant Sphinxes, Used during the Taking of a Motion Picture in the West

To complete a motion-picture scene on the sand dunes of California, 10 tons of hands were made. They were attached to 24 giant sphinxes as large as any of the original statues to be found in Egypt. Although mere skeletons in outline, viewed through the eye of the camera or on the silver screen by audiences, they cannot be distinguished from the originals from which they were designed. When the picture is completed, the great setting will be wrecked by dynamite.

PLANE FOR SEA OR SKY HAS DETACHABLE WINGS

For aviation school or pastime purposes, a seaplane, seating three passengers, is changed in 32 seconds to a ground-landing machine, by replacing the pontoon floating frame with a wheeled undercarriage. Only two fastenings are necessary to hold the lower structure to the plane. Turning a handwheel beneath the body withdraws eight bolts holding the wings, which are two pieces, in sockets at the sides. Tests showed that six men can convert the machine from land craft to a water plane in 65 seconds. The cockpit covers are removable.



Convertible Seaplane That can be Dismounted from Pontoon Float and Equipped with Wheeled Undercarriage for Land Maneuvering in Little More than a Half Minute

DE-LUXE MOTOR BUS BUILT LIKE CHAIR CAR

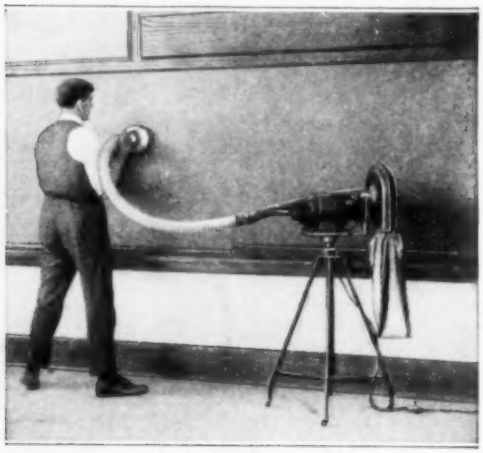
Steel Motor Bus That is Fitted with Luxurious Chairs

At Left: Inside View of Motor Bus with Pullman Comforts

Upholstered as luxuriously as a Pullman, motor busses built of steel are being used in the East. Instead of ordinary seats, the coaches are equipped with cushioned chairs, fastened securely to the floor. Easy-riding and comfortable, these cars are said to be strong enough to protect their passengers in almost any emergency. They were built to compete with electric railways in suburban service. Heated by the motor exhaust in winter, the coaches are cooled by opening the broad windows.

CHALK MARKS WIPED AWAY WITH VACUUM CLEANER

Chalk and grease marks are quickly removed from school blackboards with a combined electric grinder and vacuum cleaner. When a board looks gray, it is not the slate but an accumulation of foreign matter, such as chalk and grease, that gives the effect. The machine puts on a new surface in a few minutes without filling the air with dust. To catch foreign matter removed, a dust bag is provided. The machine will clean a board with one operation better than any amount of scrubbing.



Vacuum Cleaner for Blackboards That Operates by Electricity and Prevents Stirring Up Dust

FOOT ON AIR BULB IN AUTO ENDS JERKING OF CAR

So an automobile will pick up speed evenly and smoothly, an air cushion has been made to replace the usual accelerator pedal that controls the supply of gas. Often uneven working of a motor is caused by slight jars on this pedal. As air is more flexible, sudden changes of pressure of the foot on the rubber pneumatic bulb do not affect the carburetor to the same extent, resulting in a more velvety flow of power.

MAN-MADE NORTHERN LIGHTS ARE CREATED BY A GAS

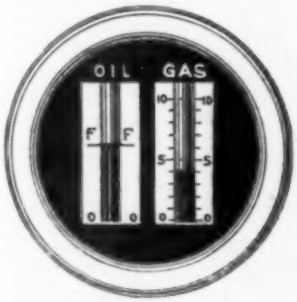
With a gas, called krypton, the flaming display of the northern lights was produced on a small scale by European scientists in a recent test. They were studying the aurora borealis to learn why it is present only in the polar regions. Krypton was thus discovered. It was found that the characteristic green lines of this gas were the same as those of the aurora, and it was suggested that the color of the lights is due to this gas in the polar regions. How it collects in the north is unsolved, but scientists believe it may result from the difference in the temperature of the gases that make up the earth's atmosphere.

COTTON SHIPPED BY AIRPLANE IS WORN THE NEXT DAY

In a test recently made, a bale of cotton weighing 500 pounds, carried by airplane from a southern city, reached a mill in a New England state the same day it was shipped, in time to be started through the machines. Woven into cloth, and separated into pieces, sewed and trimmed, it was sent to another distant city where it was worn by guests of a convention the next day.

LUMINOUS DIAL TELLS DRIVER WHEN FUEL IS SHORT

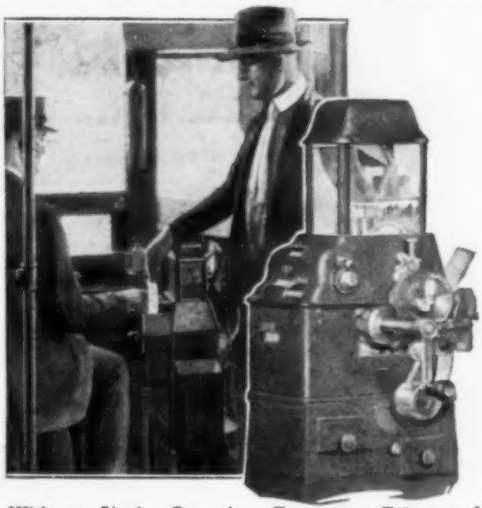
With the condition of his oil and gasoline supplies clearly shown at night by a gauge in front of him, the motorist does not need to guess at the amount in the tank or leave his seat to read the register at the back of his car. The new recorder consists of two tubes of glass filled with the liquids placed upright against a white scale, having a phosphorescent glow at night. The levels of the fluids correspond to those existing in the supply tanks of the car.



¶In September, 1864, the first Bessemer steel was made in America at an experimental plant in Wyandotte, Mich.

FARE BOX PRINTS TRANSFER AND REGISTERS COIN

Transfers are given passengers as they pay fares into it by a collecting box recently designed for street cars, that can

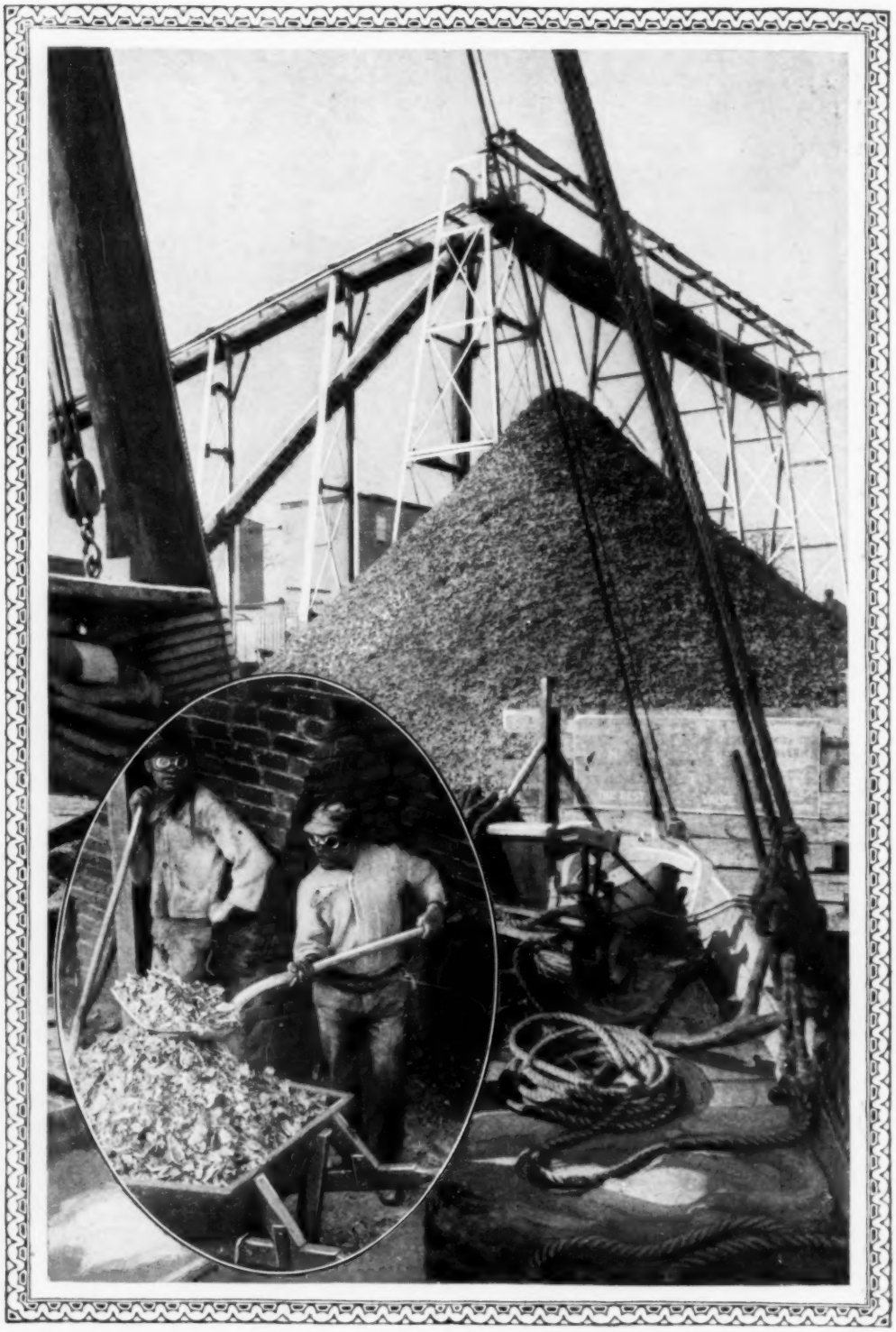


With a Single Operation Fares are Taken and Transfers Delivered by This Machine

be operated by hand or electric motor. Paper tickets are separated from other fares, canceled, and carried into a locked box, while coins are totaled and metal checks counted, before passing to a drawer where they may be reached by the operator and used for sales or making change. By the same movement that records the fare, the transfer can be delivered, stamped in large figures with the hour and date of issue, conductor's badge number, and street-car lines over which it is to be used. Number of transfers issued, collections for each trip, and day's totals are shown on different dials at the side of the box.

WAX OF WEEDLIKE SHRUB TURNED INTO VARNISH

Selling wax from a weedlike shrub that grows wild and needs no cultivation is becoming a thriving industry of the South and Mexico. Large shipments are being made to foreign countries. Factories that refine it from the stems operate to full capacity the year around and cannot get enough plants to fill the demand. It is used as a base for varnish, fillers, polish, talking-machine records, and waterproofing materials. The cost of the shrub is very small.



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Belt Carriers Taking Shells from Fishermen's Boats and Adding Them to the Small Mountain of Shells to be Burned and Then Ground into Powder for Fertilizer; Insert: Shoveling Shells into Kiln

OYSTER SHELLS BRING RICH CROPS FOR FARMERS

Burning and grinding oyster shells into a powder to make plants grow, is a growing industry of the South. A recent scarcity of nitrates forced farmers to look for some other fertilizer, and they adopted the oyster. To use something that lives at the bottom of the sea, the food of a starfish, for improving land seemed impossible at first, but in the powdered shells were found qualities that enriched the soil and so they are now being widely used. The shells are burned on a grate over a roaring fire. They are hauled by wheelbarrow to a conveyor which carries them to the place called a pulverizer, where they are mashed and ground into fine dust, ready for the farmer. This recently developed industry has brought oyster hunting to a state where it is said to be more profitable than any other kind of fishing.

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Removing Shells to the Kiln

SPARKS CAUGHT IN WATER PREVENT FOREST FIRES

For eliminating forest fires started by sparks from logging engines, a device is being made for use in large lumber camps

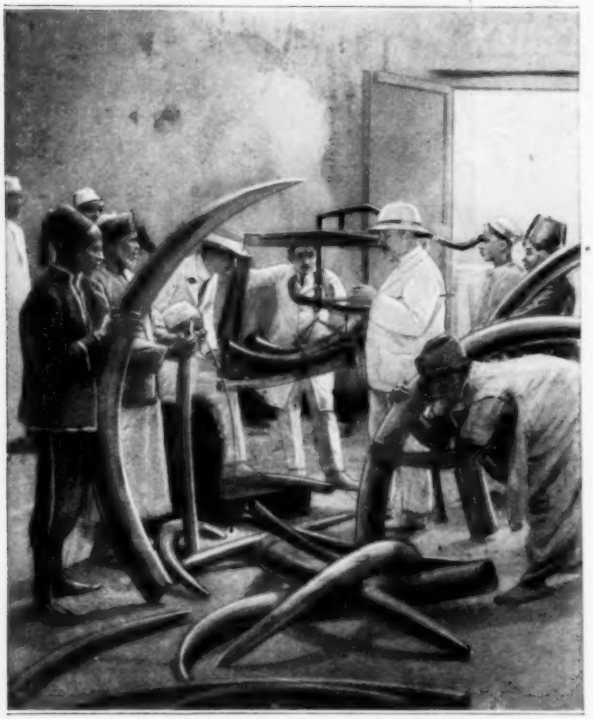
Fire Protector being Used on a Logging Engine in a Big Lumber Camp

where the fire hazards are great. Fitted over the vent of a donkey engine—the type most commonly used in the logging industry—the apparatus catches the sparks as they are shot upward and forces them through live steam into a tank of water, without impairing the engine's draft. Simple in construction, the arrester is supported on the roof of the structure covering the engine, provision being made for cleaning it when it becomes clogged with cinders.

PLAGUE OF LOCUSTS RETURNS AFTER SEVENTEEN YEARS

With a plague of locusts sweeping over Africa, many sections of the United States have reported a return of the periodical pest. After 17 years underground, grubbing among roots, the insects make their appearance in the world, living for one month in a winged state, and then die leaving millions of eggs behind. One curious fact in the life of the locust is the way in which it changes skin after coming from the ground. It climbs the tree, on whose roots it has been feeding, and, fixing itself firmly to the bark, waits for the shell to split along the back. Then the winged insect appears. After laying its eggs in small branches, the pests cut the twigs nearly through so that eventually they will fall. Having made this provision for the future, they depart from their brief hour in the upper world. Grubs born from the eggs burrow at once into the earth and stay there for 17 years. Although they injure vegetation, the locusts do not harm human beings.

TRADE GUNS FOR IVORY IN AFRICAN MARKET



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Where White Men Bargain with Natives for Elephant Tusks in Ivory Market of Central Africa

One of the most picturesque sights in central Africa is the ivory market, where white men barter with natives for elephant tusks, giving in exchange guns, and other things the natives fancy. Traders sell them to makers of pool and billiard balls, toys, models, and works of art. Piano keys are made of ivory not only from the elephant but from certain whales, walruses, and the hippopotamus, too. An idea of the enormous number of elephants killed so that ultimately the white man may play pool is shown by the fact that only three of these balls can be made from the average small tusk. Some of them are of huge size, weighing 150 pounds and being 9 feet in length. The skilled hunter often gets tusks without the danger of shooting an elephant, because he knows where to find animals that have died a natural death. Shrewd business ideas of the trader, and the native's longing for what the white man offers, have combined to make the ivory market one of the chief industries of central Africa.

RECORD-SIZE LACE CURTAIN BIGGER THAN CITY LOT

Showing the lace maker's art, a curtain 150 feet long and 50 feet wide has been made in one piece at a famous mill in England. It is said to be the largest one-piece curtain ever made. The average home lot is smaller than this big exhibit of the skill of modern workers at a trade that is many hundreds of years old. In the hall where it hangs, there was placed more than 100 years ago one of the first machines for lace making, an apparatus that turned out bobbinet, opening a new era in the craft. At first the products were crude, but today there is said to be little difference between the handwork and manufactured pieces.

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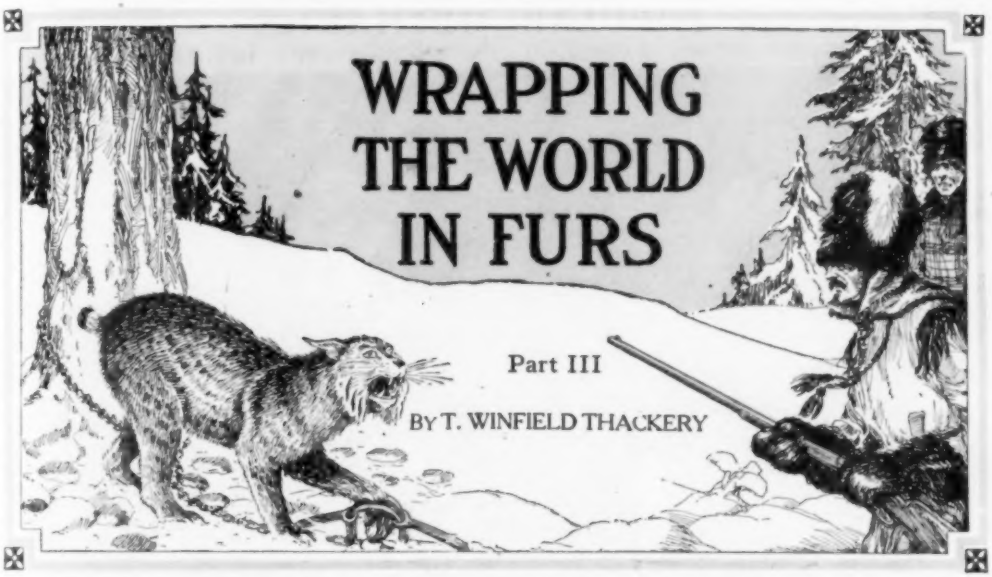
Lace Curtain, One-Fourth of City Block in Length, Said to Be Largest Single Piece Ever Made, Shows Skill of Modern Craftsmen in Ancient Art



WRAPPING THE WORLD IN FURS

Part III

BY T. WINFIELD THACKERY

FURS from remote antiquity have formed at once the protection of man from the cold and the insignia of royalty and power. They have been the price of ransoms for royal captives, the gifts of emperors and kings, and the peculiar badge of the power of government. Today they hold the same valuation, but because of the spread of democracy throughout the world, they are no longer the possessions of the rich alone. By their abundance, and the cheapness of some kinds, furs in the last hundred years have come within the reach of the man of moderate means.

The story of furs can be read in the travels of Marco Polo, as when he grows eloquent in describing the marvelous furs of the Khan of Tatary; in the lament of the early churchmen who said that the introduction of furs into the life of Rome and Byzantium was evidence of "barbaric and depressing luxury"; in the romantic history of the French occupation of Canada; in the tale of the early settlements of America; in the records of the Hudson's Bay Company, and in the annals of the trade of today.

A great many misconceptions are entertained by the general public as to the fur business. There are many strange superstitions afloat which need correction.

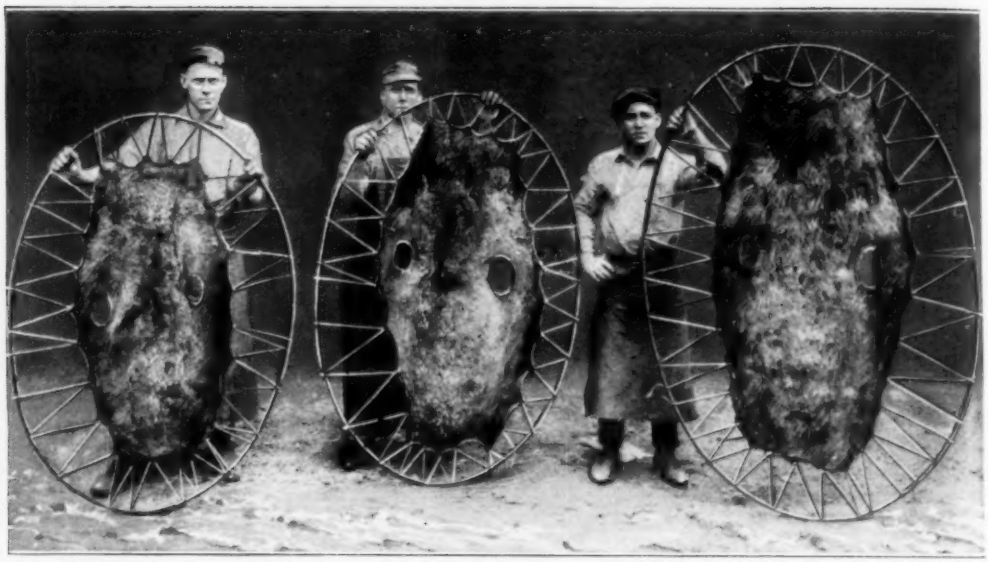
As an example, many people believe that the skins of the unborn Persian lamb are used for the trade. This is an error, for such pelts would be entirely too delicate to be worked up into furs or to wear well. Occasionally, in severe winters, broadtail—as the lambs are called—are born prematurely and few of such pelts come into the market. While all the "secrets" of the fur trade could not be described in anything short of a large library, a few of the more interesting facts may not be out of place here.

With the exception of Alaska sealskin and some other fine furs, the majority of pelts are treated in the same way after the animal is killed. The majority of fur bearers are trapped or snared, shooting them usually spoiling the coat. When the skins have been carefully removed, as soon after death as possible, they are tacked out, most of them fur outwards, and, without being exposed to the sun, are allowed to dry in a moderately warm, shady place. With the exceptions already mentioned, all raw skins come to the market dried in this simple manner.

In preparing the furs for the market a furrier or skin merchant must have a good eye for color, for the difference in value due to the color and variety is very great. Furthermore, he must know whether a skin will turn out to be soft and strong after dressing, and whether the raw pelt is in the best condition when he buys it.

Now, while the dressing of fur turns the skin into leather, the process is not the same as when ordinary hides, such as

[This is the third of a series of three articles by Mr. Thackery, dealing with the absorbing subject of furs—where they come from, curious and interesting facts about the animals that bear them, and how the skins are prepared for the market. Mr. Thackery is a Chicagoan and director of the fur division of the largest retail store in the world. His articles, therefore, bear the stamp of unquestionable authority.—Editor.]



After the Removal of the Blubber and Some of the Long Hairs, the Skins are Washed and Then Put on These Light Frames So That in Drying They do Not Shrink. They are Then Placed in a Heated Chamber

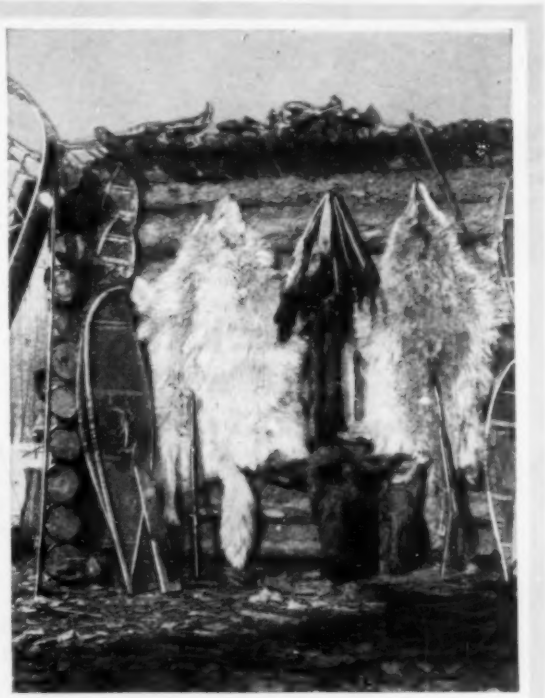
cowhide, are prepared for the market. In the latter case tannic acid is used. On a fur skin this process would destroy the fur itself and harden the skin. In a moment we shall see how sealskins are prepared, but other pelts of less value are generally placed in an alkali bath as the first step, then, working by hand with a blunt wooden instrument, the moisture in the pelt is worked out and

Skins are Received at the Rear of This Room. They are Then Passed On to the Sorters Who Judge the Value, Determining the Price Paid the Trapper

the superfluous flesh removed. Special grease is then rubbed in and the skin is run through a series of machines from which it emerges in condition to be cut up and made into garments. A great many natural furs have to be dyed before being made into scarfs, wraps, and the like.

For example, the caracul lamb, and indeed all lambs, are naturally a rusty black, brown, or white in color and, with few exceptions, are dyed a jet-black in manufacture. It may surprise many to know that most so-called Hudson Bay sables are naturally a medium brown and many are quite yellow.

The various processes through which the sealskin passes from the time the animal is killed, on the far-off Pribiloff Islands, as described in this series of articles heretofore, until the beautiful fur is displayed in shop windows, exceed more than 100 in number and are very interesting, both to the women who eventually wear the skins and to the men who ultimately pay for them.



Skins and Working Tools of the Trapper Stacked Up by His Lonely Cabin in the North Woods

As will be recalled, we found the barrels of salted sealskins leaving the Pribiloff Islands by boat for Seattle, Wash. From there they are shipped by train to St. Louis where they are placed in cold storage at a moderately low temperature.

The skins must be kept in a wet, salted state until they are put into the process of manufacturing, for they contain a great deal of oil which would burn the skins through evaporation if allowed to dry out.

The first thing that is done in a dressing operation is to grade the raw skins according to age, quality, length, and thickness of the fur and the condition of the skin itself. On the living seal, as on most animals, the fur is the soft silky hairs close to the skin. It is protected by what is called the "overhair," really longer stiff bristles. This overhair serves to protect the downy fur and keeps it from becoming matted down on the animal. For commercial purposes this overhair must be extracted from the skin, for it is not pleasant to the touch and, in most cases, is not very beautiful. Therefore, one of the first steps in dressing sealskin, after the surplus oil and blubber is removed from the pelt and fur in special washing machines, is to "unhair" the skins. This requires great skill and fine judgment on the part of the workmen in order that these long guard hairs may be taken out by the roots without damaging the soft "underfur," or the skin itself.

The skin next moves to the leathering department where, after being worked into condition, seal oil—which is made from the blubber that was taken off the skin in the first place—is applied to the back of the pelt and the whole is put into a machine which transforms the raw pelt into leather.

Scientists have been baffled in trying to discover exactly why it is that by merely kicking the skin about it is turned into leather. Some sort of chemical change takes place, but just what this is, or how it comes about, is not known. When the white man first came to America he found the Indians changing raw skins into leather simply by putting natural grease on them and then rubbing them up and down in their hands or

pounding them in a mortar. When the explorers went to the Far North they found the Eskimo women putting the seal blubber onto the skins and then chewing the latter in their mouths, thus producing leather. Many of the older women's teeth even today are worn down to the gums from this constant chewing of skins.

Taking their cue from this, the white men at first used to throw the skins into a big tub, and after adding enough grease or oil, jump up and down on them with their bare feet until the leather was made. From this it was a simple step to make machinery which, even today, simply kicks the skins around. Of course, it should be understood that every furrier does not use this kicking process. Many still use acid. The processes here and later described are those used by the Fouke Fur Company of St. Louis, which handles all the Alaska sealskins for the account of the United States Government.

Scraping the Long Hairs from a Sealskin with a Dull Knife

After the skin has been turned into leather, the surplus oil and dirt is removed from the pelt by tumbling it about in sawdust. The oil is absorbed by the sawdust and thus removed.

The skins are now ready for dyeing. This is a very complicated process and requires from three to four weeks, during which time the skins are handled every day. The dye is put on by hand with a scrub brush. This requires very

Fur Buyers at a "Floor Sale": So Expert Are They That a Glance Tells Them the Value of the Pelts

Tiger Skins Are among the Most Prized of Possessions; Tall Jungle Grass Makes Hunting Them a Highly Dangerous Pursuit

great skill. As it is known, the natural color of the seal is a very light, unclean-looking brown. In putting on the dye, the workmen are so expert that they are able to color almost exactly half of the depth of the fur a rich chocolate brown and the top half another shade of brown so deep that it looks jet-black. Anyone familiar with the appearance of fur when it is "soaking-wet" will appreciate the skill of a workman, who, with a heavy scrubbing brush, can put on the dye so that it sinks in exactly as he wishes it. Also, his art is made the greater in that the fur is, of course, not equally deep all over the skin. For instance, under the flippers of the seal the fur is only a fraction as long as it is in the middle of the back; yet a sealskin expertly dyed will show the hairs evenly colored throughout.

After being dyed and again cleaned the skin is cut down to the proper thickness. This is necessary because those who manufacture the skin into garments find that natural variations in thickness make skins hard to match up and sew together. The method formerly used to accomplish this was "hand-shaving," but a machine has been invented to do this.

Next comes a most interesting step. As might be supposed, there are small guard hairs growing out in the skin of the animal when it is killed. These are short, stubby bristles hidden by the fur itself. If they are allowed to remain in the skin they interfere with its soft, even appearance and the silky "feel" of the fur. Because these hairs are covered by the fur they could not be removed at the time the first stiff guard hairs were taken out. A wonderful machine has been invented which actually runs in through the soft fur and cuts off these stubby bristles. This feat is accomplished by an ingenious arrangement of air blowers, combs, and knives, and is a secret process.

To prepare the sealskin for the market requires four months, and from start to finish the skin is worked on nearly every day and a good many nights. Extra care must be taken in certain steps because if the skin is allowed to remain damp or wet it is liable to rot in a single night. No one can see or feel the exquisite fur and dainty, soft, light-finished pelt, without sensing its charm. The skin eventually is just like chamois and a big one may be drawn through a man's good-sized finger ring. It takes an average of six skins to make one coat for a woman.

After preparing the skins for the market the Fouke Fur Company, which alone is allowed to kill the seals on the Pribiloff Islands, must sell them at auction. They then go to the manufacturer who makes them up as he sees fit.

The art of the furrier is an old one and the workers must really be artists. Many factors go into "Wrapping the World in Furs." For instance, it is a recognized law among high-class furriers that furs should be simply arranged, that is, that an article of wearing apparel should consist of only one fur, or of two furs of a suitable contrast. Illustrative of this, it may be explained that a brown fur, such as sable, marten, mink or beaver, will match well with a black fur, while those of a white or gray nature, such as ermine, chinchilla, blue or silver fox, or gray squirrel, will look well when set on seal or black furs, such as Persian lamb, astrakhan or caracul.

For a long period of years, furs made into garments were most imperfectly tailored. It is only comparatively recently that new methods, in which America led the way, have resulted in a fur garment as accurately and gracefully fitted as velvet or other cloth. Fur-sewing machines have been on the market since 1890. There are, however, certain parts of garments, such as the putting in of sleeves, which are best sewn by hand.

Another branch of the fur business is that which has to do with hats, cloths and shawls. The best felt hats are made from beaver and muskrat wool and the cheaper kinds of nutria, hare, and rabbit wools. For weaving, the most valuable pieces are taken from Angora goats.

Fur skins do not always appear as they were in life. Most gray squirrels seen on the streets come from Russia, where, after the dressing process, the backs of the squirrels are made up separately from the under and thinner parts of the skin. The smaller and uneven pieces of heads and legs are made up into linings.

The most of the odd-shaped pieces from the heads, legs, sides, and paws of all animals are exported to countries where cheap furs are in the biggest demand. A good many other skins, such as foxes and ermines and others having specially handsome markings, are sliced up and the manufactured neckpieces may often be in several-pieced sections sewn together.

In all, there are more than 100 kinds of skins known to the fur market; this, of course, does not include varieties of the same species of animal. Even the house cat is pressed into service. The best of these latter come from Holland, but although in color, weight, and warmth they

are very good, the fur is apt to become loose and fall off. They are used mostly for coat lining.

Dog skin also is used, though the only ones used in civilized countries are those imported from China. These are heavy and coarse and only used in the cheaper trade, chiefly for rugs. All kinds and conditions of goats give their skins to the trade. The Chinese export thousands of skins in black, gray, and white, mostly made into rugs of two skins each.

Most monkey fur once belonged to the black monkey taken on the west coast of Africa. The hair is very long and bright, with no underwool, but having a white belt at the base of the hair. It is interesting to learn that monkey fur was in great demand and very fashionable in England back in 1850. Also it appeared in fashion marts in America in 1890. For the next 30 years they were mostly bought in Germany, but as we now see, they are again in fashion in this country.

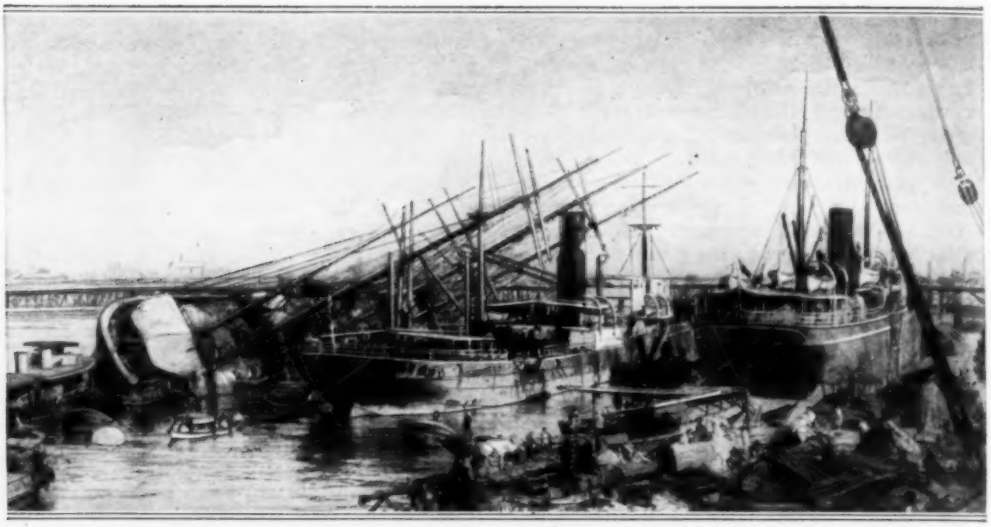
The kangaroo is another animal whose fur is acceptable to the trade. The best of the lighter weights of kangaroo fur are often not strong enough to stand wearing in a coat. A variety, however, coming from a species of the animal, which is known in Australia as the swamp wallaby, is dyed to imitate skunk skin and looks very well.

The very limited number of musk oxen may be one of the reasons why these skins are not in greater use. The animals have a very dense coat of fine, long, brown wool, with very long dark-brown hair on head, flanks, and tail, and in the center a peculiar pale, oval marking. There is no other fur so thick, and were it not so scarce it would be greatly used for robes and greatcoats.

Most people being used to seeing the brown of the muskrat fur probably do not know that a very few thousand skins of the Russian muskrat are annually imported. This is a very pretty silvery-blue and silky fur, which, did it not have the odor of musk, would probably be one of our most valuable skins. Raccoon furs are a common sight, but perhaps it is not generally known that the animal itself is a kind of wild dog, and while having a close relationship to the bears, is not more than a cousin many times removed.

A word or two in conclusion may well have to do with the care of furs. Most people do not know how to best preserve their furs. Sunlight encourages the development of moth eggs and also tends to bleach the fur; therefore, continuous exposure to strong sunlight, especially in the warmer months of the year, is to be avoided. When furs are wetted by the rain they should be allowed to dry in a current of air without exposure to sun or fire; this after they are well shaken. Where cold storage is not available when one wishes to put up furs for the summer, they should be well shaken, then packed in linen and kept in a perfectly cool, dry place.

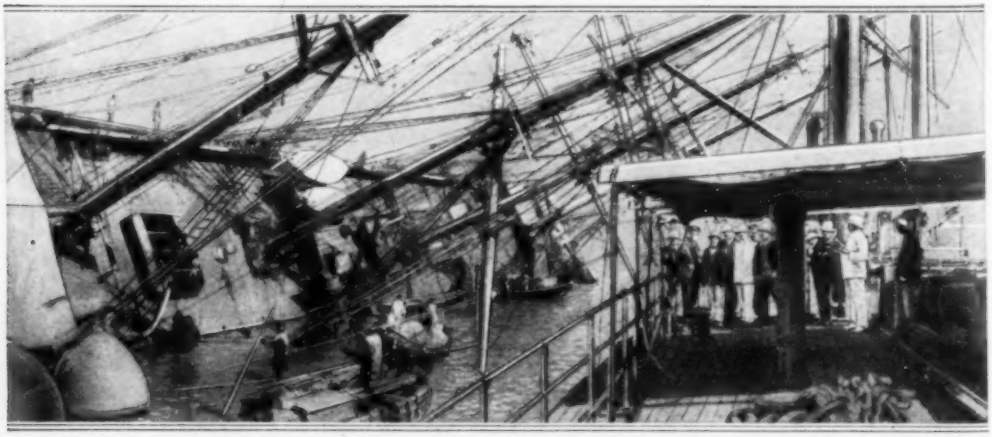
Dyeing Sealskins by Brushing on the Color with Ordinary Scrub Brushes: Note How Skins are Folded; They are Not Allowed to Rest Otherwise



Catastrophe to Sailing Craft Awaits in the Least Suspected Waters, as This German Schooner, Which Keeled Over at Calcutta While being Cleaned, Bears Mute Witness

SAILORS FEAR PERILS OF PORTS MORE THAN SEA

Hidden dangers lurking in crowded ports are more feared by sailors generally than the hazards of the sea. When far from land, the seaman may avoid many mishaps by skillful handling of his vessel or by fleeing before storms too severe to be faced. But tied up to a dock or at anchor in a busy bay where there is no room to maneuver, the constant menace from fire, collision, sudden shifting of the cargo that might upset the ship at its dock, and other perils that cannot be foreseen or provided against, must be faced. Anchors may drag or mooring lines part under the strain put upon them by strong winds, setting the vessel adrift to smash itself among other shipping. Unexpected sand bars in rivers and harbors are another danger dreaded by mariners. In tropical seas, tidal waves, swept before terrific storms, roll far up the rivers and invade the gulfs, crushing everything in their path and leaving the beaches piled high with wreckage. As a result, sailors the world over never feel so safe as when their ships are at sea with land far in the distance. Aided by warning devices, the approach of bad weather is known hours ahead, nearness of icebergs floating from frozen seas is foretold, while hidden reefs, shoals, and rocks are shown on the captain's chart, enabling him to avoid them.



Salvaging Cargo from Hold of Ship That Capsized in the Harbor: Its Tangled Rigging and Masts Struck a Neighboring Steamer, Thus Preventing a More Serious Accident

MUSIC NOTES DEFY MECHANICAL TYPESETTING

Little-Known Trade at Which There Are Only 75 Workers in the United States

BY GEORGE BARNARD

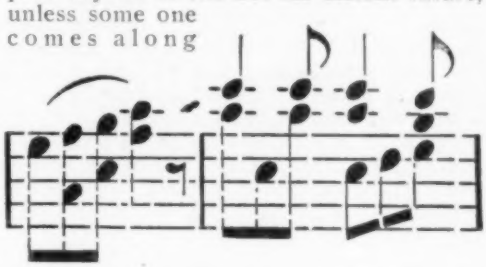
NO one has yet succeeded in perfecting a machine which will set up type for sheet music. Newspaper stories occasionally laud an alleged success. But according to that rare survival, the music typesetter, the trade is still waiting for something practical to supersede its old-fashioned but effective methods.

There are ways of reproducing musical scores without setting them up in type. In fact, lithography and engraving have practically supplanted the old method. But for certain classes of work the old style is still supreme, and is putting up a gallant fight against extermination. The musical notation in most hymn books is produced by means of movable type. The advantage of the use of type in this connection is that the words are made to coincide more exactly with the notes to which they are related; and as the hymn-book page is smaller than an ordinary song sheet, it is difficult by means of engraving to inscribe the words sufficiently clearly in so small a space.

But hardly any song sheets are printed by the movable-type process nowadays, and as the demand for hymn books is small, in comparison with the total production of musical scores, the survivors in the old musical-typesetting industry are few and far between. It is estimated that there are fewer than 75 men in the whole of the United States who are competent to set up music type. There are perhaps 10 shops in the whole country in which this kind of work is done; and throughout the rest of the world the music-type printer is proportionately rare. In New York there are probably only two or three concerns which set up music type. In Chicago there are two. Cincinnati still claims one, and there are two or three elsewhere in America.

At Left, an Analysis of the Individual Pieces of Type Indicated in the Diagram at Right

The art of the music typesetter will probably die in the not far distant future, unless some one comes along with a machine—at present inconceivable—that will give type-set music an advantage over the engraved kind. In one music-typesetting shop, for instance, there are no apprentices—a significant fact. Boys do not rush in to learn such a trade. Apart from the fact that the future is uncertain and the opportunities small, the work itself requires considerable application and is difficult to learn.



One Hundred and Sixteen Pieces of Type were Used in These Two Bars of Music

Some of the troubles which beset the man who strives to perfect a machine, after the fashion of the linotype, to set music notes, will be seen from a consideration of the task before him.

In the mechanical setting of ordinary type each line is set separately, as most people know, and one line has no relation (so far as the exact position of the individual letters is concerned) to the line above or below it. One character is simply read in its relation to other letters in the same horizontal line, and they do not even have to join on to one another. A linotype machine works from one end of the line to the other. It cannot set one character exactly above another character except by minute and laborious calculation on the part of the operator. Unless a "music linotype" were fitted with hundreds of thousands of keys, and corresponding matrices, it would have to be able to set one character above another, as well as one character beside another, and it would have to do both with extraordinary precision.

A study of the accompanying diagrams

will best explain the intricacy of the task of setting music type. A page of music, composed of music type, is a mosaic made up of little pieces of metal which singly are meaningless. A single note with its stem is never merely one piece of type. It is usually made up of three pieces, and sometimes of more. The lines must, of course, be set up, as well as the notes and other characters, and they must all fit together exactly.

The number of pieces of type in a given space will vary according to the intricacy of the musical passage. Three hundred distinct pieces of type in a single line of music is a fairly low average, or 3,000 in a medium-sized page of a hymnal.

A music compositor's output will vary according to the copy. On average copy, the setting of two pages of hymn-book music is considered a fair day's work for one man.

Music type is of standard type height. Its other dimensions are not measured by the "point system" known to printers, but one kind is distinguished from another by names which formerly were used in connection with ordinary type before the point system came into vogue: "excelsior," "agate," "nonpareil," "diamond," and so forth.

An ordinary printers' "composing stick" is used by the music compositor. Of course he has to set the type from right to left, as it will reverse in printing. But whereas an ordinary compositor merely places pieces of type side by side, the music compositor has to build in two directions at the same time.

A font of music type is contained in cases very similar to the printers' alphabetical case, but the number of characters in a font is considerably greater. A font of music type usually contains over 3,000 characters. Some of the characters differ only slightly from others, some sections of "line," for instance, being just a hair's breadth longer than other sections. Yet, so expert does a music compositor become that he cannot only set music type as easily as another man can manipulate the alphabet, but he can distribute the type into the proper departments of the "case" with the greatest facility.

As the demand for music type is so small, each printer who handles this class of work has to supply his own matrices when ordering from a type foundry. It now costs about $7 a hymn-book page to set up music type. Yet, in the long run, it is cheaper to produce music by this method than it is to work with engraved plates.

These Strange-Looking "Notes" Find a Place in the Music Setter's Type Case Used in the South, and are Not Generally Understood by the Rest of the World

VOLCANO IN FRESH OUTBREAK DESTROYS MANY HOMES

Inactive since 1911, Italy's Mt. Etna recently broke forth anew in violent eruptions, with rivers of molten lava streaming down its sides and across the countryside from five new mouths. Thirty thousand persons were made homeless and much property was destroyed. For a year prior to this outbreak, the volcano had shown signs of becoming active. Through that period, dense clouds of smoke poured from its crater, accompanied by heavy rumblings. Familiar with the disasters that have attended past outpourings of the fiery masses, the natives fled in terror. Sun-obscuring clouds of black smoke filled the air for miles, and white-hot lava spread over the surrounding territory, enveloping everything in its path. Before one wave of lava cooled, another and greater one was pushing it forward. Mount Etna's recorded eruptions, numbering over 80, have resulted in the death of more than 100,000 persons. Sixty thousand were killed in 1693, when an unusually severe earthquake occurred at the same time as an eruption.

GRAPES PROTECTED BY BAGS

Heavy paper bags are being used to shield grapes from birds, harmful insects, and damaging rot during the growing season. Thus the yield and quality are increased. Slipped over the bunches, the protectors are fastened securely to the vines, and remain until the fruit has ripened. While thick enough to shed moisture, the material of which they are made does not exclude air or the sun's heat.

LUMINOUS CLOUDS TO LIGHT BOTTOM OF THE OCEAN

Luminous clouds of artificial light are used in experiments being made to find a method for taking photographs and moving pictures of the ocean's floor, where the "Lusitania" and many other ships, some laden with treasure, lie buried out of the reach of divers. By spraying the water with a chemical designed to reproduce the phosphorescence of waves, a scientist believes it may be possible to light up the sea sufficiently to take pictures of objects, many fathoms below the surface. At present, beyond a depth of 50 feet, it is virtually impossible to see more than 10 feet in any direction.

ELECTRIC LANTERN IS CLEAN, SAFE, AND CAN'T BLOW OUT

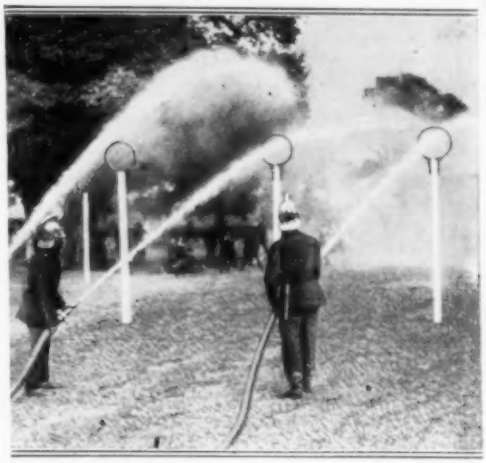
Resembling in form the old oil type, an electric lantern is being made that is clean, safe, and can't blow out. The battery is carried in the bottom and the lamp replaces the usual wick, being protected by a heavy glass globe. Always ready for use, it is not affected by jolts and jars, and will burn steadily for a long time. When the battery is exhausted, it can be replaced in less time than it takes to fill the old-style lantern.

NIAGARA FALLS TO BE LIGHTED BY SUBMERGED ELECTRICS

Added grandeur to the play of water over Niagara Falls is expected to result from the installation of submerged electric lamps to replace the system of flood lighting now used to illumine the falls at night. Built after the fashion of a depth bomb, metal containers, with white or colored water-tight electric globes set in the tops, will be anchored by cable underneath the cascade. The bulbs will point upward so that the colored rays will be reflected upon the tumbling water.

FIRE FIGHTERS SHOOT WATER THROUGH LOOPS IN TEST

During a recent field day held by the London fire department, target shooting with streams of water was one of the popular events. A strong head of water was used, making it difficult to manage the nozzle and direct the stream through a small hoop at a distance. With long practice, firemen become as skilled in handling a high-pressure hose as does the marksman with his rifle, often reaching difficult spots with heavy streams of water, even in the face of winds. Perched at the tops of long ladders, balancing the weight of the hose, many veterans can direct water onto distant parts of a fire.



Shooting the Target with a Stream of Water during a London Contest

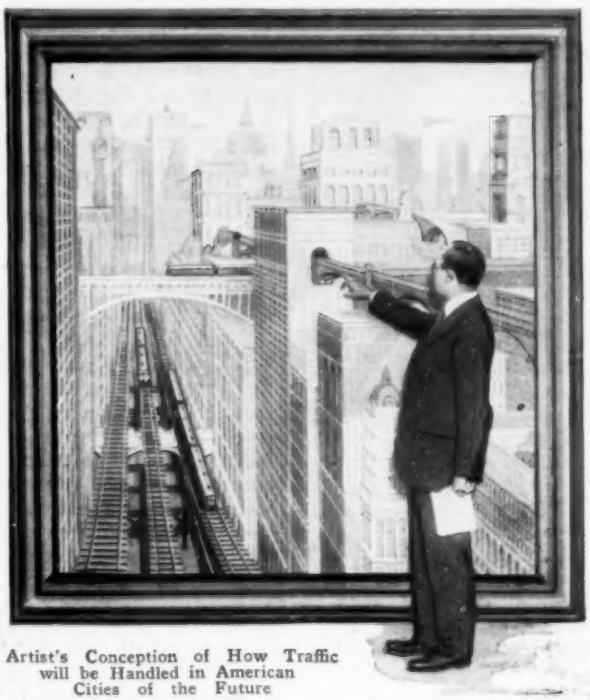
RADIO IS TAUGHT IN SLEEP BY PHONES ON EARS

Teaching the novice how to send and receive radio code messages more speedily by giving him instructions while he sleeps, is a method recently adopted and said to be proving successful at a naval air-training station. Before retiring at night, the student puts an ordinary headset of telephone receivers over his ears. All night long skilled operators send messages, usually ten words a minute in excess of the student's capacity. The next day in his conscious hours, it is reported, the beginner is able to transcribe communications at the speed they came to him during his sleep, and to send code words faster than the day before. Some committed to memory passages of literature flashed to them while they slept.

Batteries of Searchlights Played on Its Dazzling Lacework of Crystal Gems and Pyramids of Water Jets, Produce Marvelous, Changing Color Effects from This Electric Jeweled Fountain

FAIRY CITY OF FUTURE FORECAST AT EXHIBIT

Dreams that the builders and architects of today hope to see realized in the city of the future were displayed at an exposition in the East recently. Overhead thoroughfares supported on great arches between towering skyscrapers, double-decked streets, moving sidewalks bordered by a maze of show windows, stores connected by artistic bridges and covered promenades, will serve to crowd the lives of the citizens. Airships landing at lofty stations will carry the business man and the shopper to the down-town district, where they will be lowered to the streets by speedy elevators. Electrified railroads will enter underground and unload passengers at subterranean depots from whence cars traveling through wide subways will take them to different points of the city. Radio equipment in every office and home will serve to keep the inhabitants advised of the daily happenings in distant parts of the world. A sea of light, radiating from powerful hidden bulbs, will make the night as bright as day. One of the exhibits that attracted much attention was a jeweled electric fountain of elaborate design and beautiful effect.



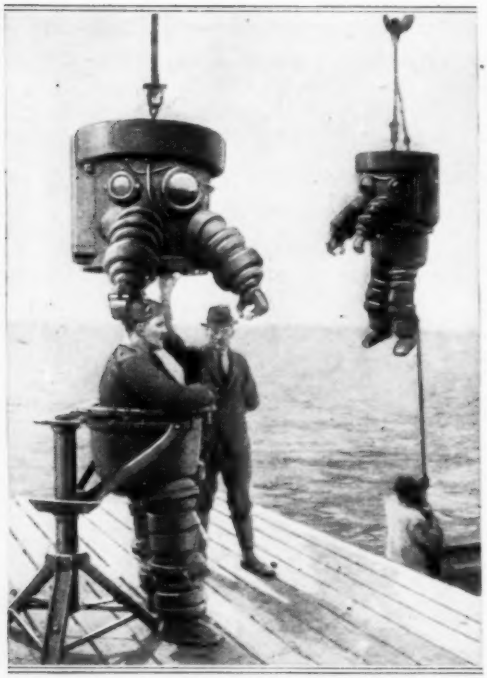
Artist's Conception of How Traffic will be Handled in American Cities of the Future

VANISHING RACE OF INDIANS VISITED BY EXPLORERS

In the southernmost inhabited land, Tierra del Fuego, lives an almost extinct tribe of Yaggan Indians, called "Firelanders," who speak a rich, beautiful language containing 32,000 words, and who worship only one god, whom they call "Watauinourva," signifying "The Ancient in Heaven." For more than a century the "Firelanders" have been pictured as barbarians, without education, moral sense, or religion, and as cannibals who ate their aged parents. But two priests, who spent months with them and were made members of the tribe, have returned recently to contradict those reports. Their investigations also have enabled them to make a valuable contribution to science on the habits of the people. Like most primitive races, the Yaggans reach their educational heights in religious functions, which often last for weeks. During those ceremonies the young members are initiated into the traditions of the tribe. For the last 30 years, because of the rapidly decreasing membership, only one part of the rites, known as the "Coxans," has been observed, although the second portion, the "Kina," was performed for the two explorers. In 50 years, their ranks have decreased from 2,000 to not more than 70. As only a few plants thrive in that cold region, the natives obtain most of their food by hunting and fishing.

"WORMHOLES" SOLD IN EUROPE

Exporting wormy oak for manufacture into "antiques," may soon develop into a thriving and profitable industry, according to government experts. One consignment of faulty timber that was sent abroad recently found no sale until it was offered to an "antique"-furniture manufacturer. He bought it at a premium because the worm-made holes eliminated the necessity of boring them.



Diver Wearing Queer Suit in Which He Walks through Dark Realms under the Sea

TREASURES OF SEA SOUGHT IN STEEL-CLAD SUITS

To explore the depths of the sea, a queer-looking apparatus with an air chamber that the diver regulates has been made in Europe. It is intended for use in entering sunken ships and will allow the wearer freedom of action at a depth of 1,000 feet, it is claimed. In the darkness found far beneath the surface, an electric light guides the wearer, and a telephone keeps him in communication with the boat from which he is lowered. Search for hidden treasure lying at the bottom of the sea will be made by use of this diving suit.

NEW YORK TO CHINA FLIGHT BY PLANE IS PLANNED

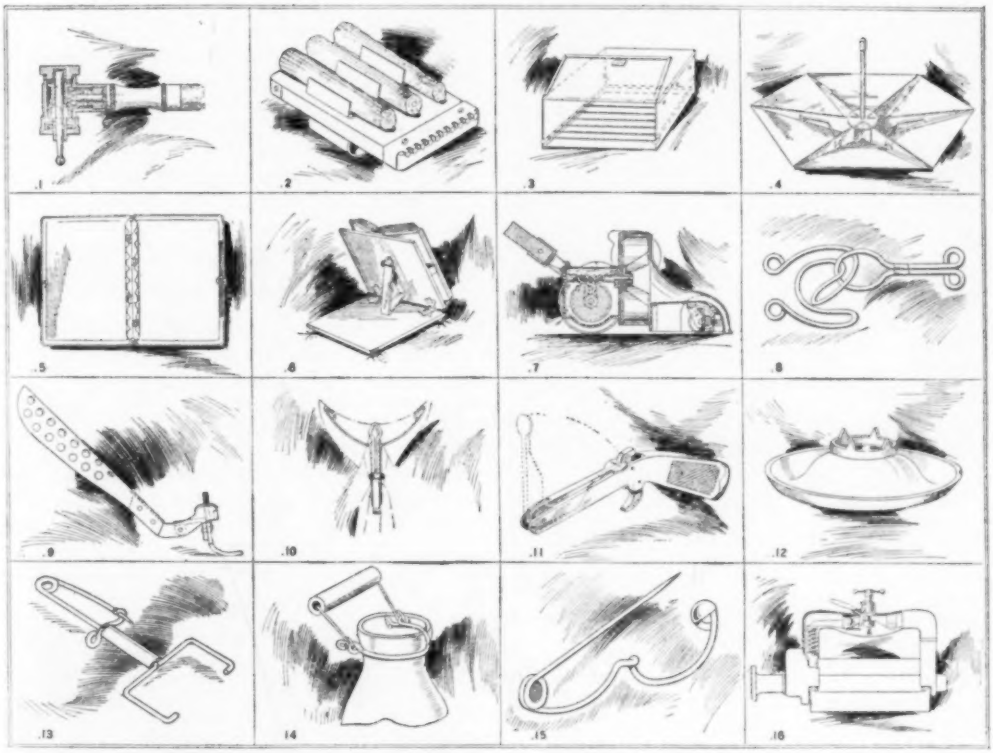
Plans for an airplane flight from New York to Peking, China, were announced recently. To avoid flying over the Pacific Ocean, the route would be by Alaska, as only a comparatively small expanse of sea separates that territory from the eastern hemisphere. Thus the hazards of flying over open water would be greatly reduced.

AIRMEN FIND CYCLE RACE HARDER THAN FLYING

Although their sense of balance had been trained by years of flying, 100 French airmen recently found cycle skating was more difficult than piloting an airplane when they took part in a race in Paris. Many accidents resulted, although all of the fliers were ardent bicycle riders who, despite their air duties, have never wholly forsaken their training on wheels. To the majority, the sport was new. Yet the contest was close enough to be exciting, and it attracted a great crowd of spectators.

Although Untrained in the Sport, French Airmen, Taking Part in a Novel Cycle-Skating Race in Paris, Carried the Contest to an Exciting Close

These Are for Everyday Use But— Can *You* Name Them?



JUST to help you, the use for which the articles are intended is as follows:

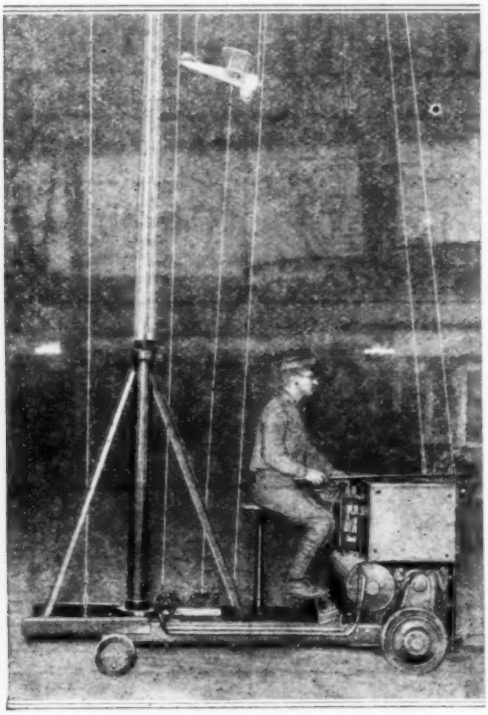
No. 1 in a profession and for painful work. No. 2 on the farm. No. 3 in the home. No. 4 for out-of-doors. No. 5 by men. No. 6 in the home. No. 7 in the home. No. 8 on clothing. No. 9 in the home. No. 10 as a part of men's attire. No. 11 anywhere, but especially in the home. No. 12 in the home. No. 13 by women. No. 14 in a business. No. 15 on clothing. No. 16 in the home.

Popular Mechanics Magazine offers no prizes for correct answers to these problems, but offers them for the interest it believes its readers will find in attempting to determine the nature of the various articles shown.

If you think you have the right answers you can find out by comparing them with the correct list which will appear in Popular Mechanics Magazine for October.

TOY PLANE HELPS TO TRAIN ANTI-AIRCRAFT GUNNERS

To teach aiming with anti-aircraft guns, a miniature airplane on a 30-foot



Model Plane, Mounted on Tower, at Which Student Gunners Aim during Indoor Practice

tower is moved about the floor of an eastern armory. The target is raised and lowered by the driver of the electric truck on which the tower is mounted. Effective practice in aiming is thus provided the student gunners, who try repeatedly to get the range, but never fire. Not until they have passed rigid tests are they allowed to quit the indoor lessons for some aerial warfare on the field. Night practice is made more realistic by playing searchlights on the airplane.

GATE AND WINDING STAIRS LEAD UP TO GARDEN

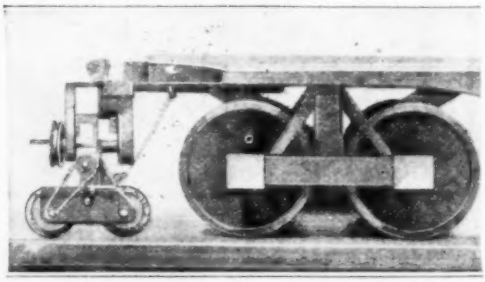
In solving the problem of how to reach his home and garden, which are elevated about 12 feet above the street level, an eastern man has built a winding stairway leading to a platform. The top overlooks the sidewalk and highway, and is on a level with the house. It is supported by iron pillars and is reached through an attractive gateway.

TENTED CITY IN DESERT BUILT FOR MOVIES

During the filming of a movie based on a Bible story, a tented city in a western desert was the home of several thousand actors, and 4,000 animals, including camels, elephants, lions, horses, dogs, mules, and pigs. More than 600 tents were occupied by the cast, said to have been the largest ever assembled. Men, women, and children of all classes mingled in the mob scenes out on the sand, 200 miles from the city where they had been recruited. For several weeks clerks, bankers, attorneys, butchers, club women, and scrub women lived together in the desert colony, all engaged in the same task of acting before the movie camera.

MOTOR WHEELS DO WORK OF SWITCH ENGINE

For railroad sidings where there are more cars to be moved than can be handled with a crowbar, and yet not enough to keep a switch engine busy, an eastern inventor has brought out a jack mounted on two wheels, placed one behind the other. It may be driven by a small gasoline motor, or run by hand with a crank. The machine will work



Freight Cars being Moved to Shipping Platforms without Small Bars or Locomotives

on either of the rails, and may be attached to the end of any kind of a car in a few seconds. It gets its hold on the track from the pressure caused by screwing the top upward against the load, and can be made to travel at speeds of from ½ to 10 miles per hour.

¶The Popular Mechanics' Bureau of Information offers its free service to all readers of our magazine. Names and addresses of manufacturers and dealers in articles described, and any other details in our possession, will be promptly furnished by addressing the bureau.

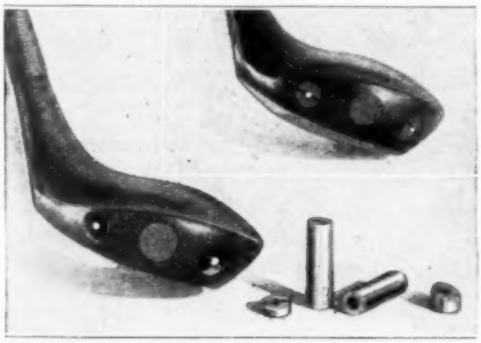
ONE-MAN FISH NET SPREADS LIKE A HUGE FAN

Throwing a net at fish and catching entire schools of them by closing it with a cord is a new water sport in the South. The net is held in one hand by the sportsman, who wades into the water. It is thrown over a school of fish. Down over the water the net spreads like a huge fan, the weighted edges quickly sinking. Pulling of a cord closes the bottom so that the fish are unable to escape. The net is dragged to shore, where the catch is taken out by releasing the cord. Skill is required to use this net because the fish must not be alarmed by the approach of the fisherman. If properly used, the one-man net will catch as many fish as can be lured into the ordinary one seined by two persons.

Throwing Net into Air, Where It Spreads like Huge Fan and Then Sinks around School of Fish

CHANGE GOLF-CLUB WEIGHT TO SUIT THE PLAYER

To enable the weight of a golf club to be instantly adjusted to suit the player, one manufacturer has inserted removable pieces of lead in the head of the stick. As changes may be made during the game, this does away with the need of carrying several drivers or brassies in the bag so as to have a variety to select from in meeting various situations. Slight changes in the weights of the clubs also have proved useful when the player feels out of form.



Golf Club with Removable Weights in Head So That It may be Changed to Suit Player

PENCILLIKE SCALE SOLVES ENGINEERS' PROBLEMS

In a few seconds, with the movement of two sliding tubes scarcely larger than a pencil, a rapid calculator has been made to solve engineering problems. Easily carried in the pocket, it will do the work of a 66-inch slide rule and will give the roots and powers of all numbers without limit, even of fractions. Also, it will answer many other mathematical calculations, proving of value to all who have figuring to do. When solving a problem involving the volume of cylinders, only one movement of the tube is needed, and it will also figure the costs for various weights. The scale is made like a watch charm and when folded may be carried in the pocket like a pencil.

STAMP EXHIBIT TO BE SHOWN IN LONDON

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Assistant Postmaster-General Glover is Shown Pointing to the Die Proof of the Famous 24-Cent Stamp, Made in Error with an Inverted Airplane

Assistant Postmaster-General Glover sailed for London recently, bearing with him a priceless stamp collection prepared by the Bureau of Printing and Engraving. The collection is arranged on a huge plaque, and consists of rare stamps laid out to represent the American shield. The trip was being made for the purpose of entering the collection in the International Stamp Exposition, to be held in the Royal Horticultural Hall in London.

TRADE-MARKING A CITY

Red and white labels, attached to commercial and municipal stationery, are being used to help stock growers distribute their cattle. Business boosters devised the labels, which are adorned with the picture of a top, on which appear the words "Watertown, Wisconsin," while a legend above reads, "On the Top," and another below, "It will Never Stop."

HOTHOUSE BUILT ON ROOF OF BUILDING

This Shows the Attractive Appearance Which the Hothouse Gives in Topping Off the Rest of the Building

Hothouses are usually low-lying structures, built at a distance from the business section of a city, but one enterprising florist has erected his on the roof of his business establishment, where it is reached by an elevator. In addition to the advertising value of this arrangement, the feature possesses the advantages of economy and convenience, saving additional lot space and combining his business in one structure. The hothouse is 20 by 92 feet, steam-heated and storm-proof, and is accessible to customers. Curved glass windows are used on the side edges.

CIVIL-WAR VESSEL FOUND BY DREDGE IN RIVER

Rusted shells recently pumped from the bed of the Mississippi River by a gravel dredge in Louisiana, are believed to be the remains of a federal war vessel commanded during the Civil War by George Dewey, later Admiral Dewey. The vessel was disabled in an attack on Port Hudson in the river fighting of 1863. Struck by a volley of shells, it floated down the river and finally burned and sank. The ship was attached to the fleet of Admiral Farragut.

MODEL HOUSES ARE MAILED TO POSSIBLE BUYERS

Sending little "sample" houses to home builders, is the plan of salesmanship being used by London architects. These models are complete in every detail and are designed to inspire pride of ownership in the person to whom they are mailed. Facing a housing shortage, rivaling that of any American metropolis, many residents of London have bought home sites in the city's suburbs and are confronted with the problem of selecting the type of home to be built. To

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One of the Model Houses Architects Mail on Approval to English Home Builders

help them, the architects have started the new industry of building models that are mailed to possible buyers.

AUTO FUEL FROM SAND

Automobile fuel and other valuable products are being taken from tar sand in Canada. Besides the gasoline, paraffin, lubricating oil, and asphalt are obtained. Nearly all gasoline and oils used in the Dominion have been brought in from the United States.

SWIMMING GLOVES WITH WEBS LIKE A DUCK'S FOOT

By using the principle of the duck's webbed feet, gloves are being made that make swimming much easier. The web

Gloves, Patterned from Duck's Foot, That Help in Making Speed through the Water

between the fingers spreads as the hands move backward, giving a greater pressure against the water. On the forward stroke, the fingers are closed and the glove offers no more resistance than the naked hand. Besides giving more speed, the gloves afford greater security, as it is easier for the swimmer to keep afloat because of the additional leverage.

ELECTRIC HOUSE OF FUTURE TO BANISH DRUDGERY

In a home fitted with every known electrical appliance that was shown recently at a southern exposition, housewives saw the coming of a new era of comfort and convenience. Iceless refrigerators, dishwashing machines, stoves that could be set to start cooking at any time desired and which would automatically shut off the heat and keep the food warm when the meal was done, odorless incinerators in the basement connected with the kitchen by a chute, and vacuum cleaners, all operated at the touch of a button, doing, as if by magic, work that would require hours of back-bending toil. Walls built on the principle of a vacuum bottle would keep the rooms cool in summer and save heat in winter. Wide expanses of windows abolished the dark corners that so often are breeding places for germs. Beautifully tinted walls and floors were made of cement and concrete, so durable that they could be cleaned with a hose.

HAIR KEPT FOR GENERATIONS MAKES A "FAMILY TREE"

For centuries families have prided themselves on the completeness and historical value of their records. With the same pride, a Russian family in a western city regards its "family tree," which, however, is a wreath of family hair, instead of the usual documents. For almost 200 years the wreath has been in the process of weaving, each member of the nine generations born during that period having contributed a lock. Thus the wreath will continue to grow in length for another 300 years, when, it is estimated, it will have been completed.

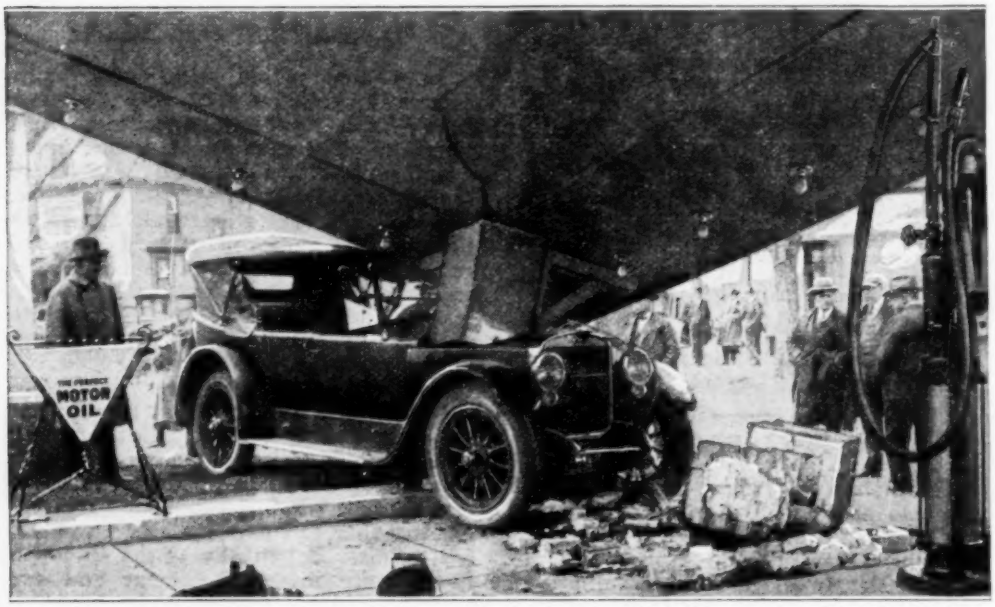
Family Hair Wreath Made Up of Locks from Heads of Nine Generations

CURE FOR TOADSTOOL POISON IS SOUGHT IN SERUM

To cure persons suffering from toadstool poisoning, a French physician is experimenting with a serum which, he believes, will do much to lessen the number of such cases. His tests are being made on rabbits and white mice that have been first fed the juices of the toadstool. When they show signs of sickness he uses the serum. Many deaths have resulted from the eating of toadstools in the belief that they were mushrooms.

HEAVY ROOF CRUSHES AUTO, BUT DRIVER ESCAPES

When her auto crashed into the concrete support of a gasoline station, a woman driver escaped almost certain death by only 2 feet, the distance between the hood and the steering gear. The heavy roof fell, but came to rest a few feet above the seat and the woman stepped calmly out, unhurt, although she could have touched the roof.



Automobile Struck by Concrete Roof After It had Wrecked Supporting Pillar at Gasoline-Filling Station: Although the Car was Severely Damaged, the Driver Escaped Unhurt

BOLTLESS FOLDING STOVE TO HELP CAMPERS

For the camper or hunter a cast-iron stove that can be folded into a space only 4 inches deep is now made. It has no bolts and cannot warp. Driftwood, branches, coke, or charcoal are burned equally well in rain, wind, or fair weather. Although so small that in a canoe, motorcycle sidecar, or auto it uses little space, still it is big enough to do the cooking for a camping party. When folded, the stove comes apart readily, but when in service, the wind cannot affect it, the makers say.

CLOCKS INSTEAD OF POLES TELL WHEN TO SHAVE

Not so long ago every shopkeeper and tradesman hung a sign above his door to guide the seeker after his wares or

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Barber Poles, Displaced by Clocks, Join Cigar-Store Indians among Relics of Past

services. These markers were usually large wooden or metal imitations of some article he sold or tool he used. Most of them have gone into disuse and have given way to artistically painted lettering on the plate-glass windows of store fronts or office doors. Among the last of these once familiar tokens to be discarded is the brightly colored pole before barber shops. Instead, a queer-looking clock is being used, on the theory that it will remind customers that it is time to get a shave or a hair cut.

WIRES ARE MADE TO SING BY ELECTRIC FORKS

After five years of effort an expert has constructed a machine that tests musical-

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Adjusting Master Fork of Toning Machine That Tests Wires for Musical Instruments

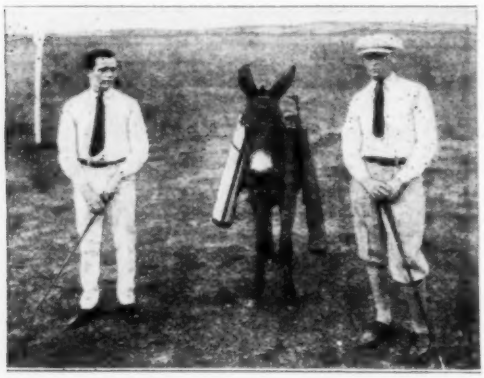
instrument wires for tone in the factory. A set of harmonic forks moves by electricity. The largest one vibrates 108¾ times per second, and the smallest one moves twice as fast. By use of these forks, experts make wires that will have any definite vibration rates desired and, therefore, give out the exact tone wanted. On a small scale, the piano tuner does the same thing when he raises or lowers the tone of piano strings with the aid of a hand-tuning fork.

COAT HANGER AND BRUSH ARE COMBINED IN ONE

Combining the advantages of a coat hanger and a clothes brush in one piece, a folding device is being made in the East. Fastened to the underside of the hanger on each side are bristles, which are out of the way when it is in use. When folded it may be used as a brush. So compact that it may be easily carried in a handbag or pocket, the device is of special service to the traveler.

MULE, AS CADDIE, CARRIES BAGS OF GOLFERS

Because of lack of caddies, a mule is being used on one golf course in the South to carry the bags of the players.



Golfers Using Mule to Carry Bags Because of a Shortage of Caddies

One of the mule's advantages over the human caddie is the fact that he can carry as many bags as can be strapped on his back. Then, too, he works without tips or pay. When off the links, the mule performs many other duties.

SEALS SHOT FROM "BLIND" CARRIED ON SLED

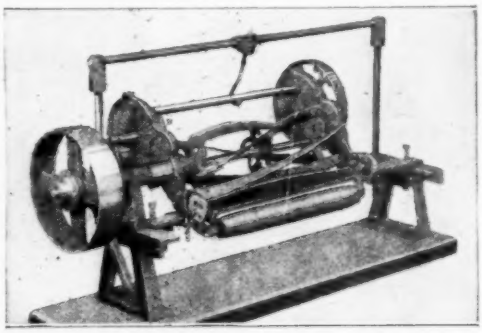
Seal hunters are now using a light sled which supports their rifles and conceals them as they approach for the shot. The "seal blind," as it is called, is made up of a pair of wooden runners carrying a frame gun rest. Lying at full length, the hunters push the blind before them. A white canvas screen, having an opening for the gun and permitting view for aim and guiding, is set upright at the front.

CLAMPS INSTEAD OF NAILS USED IN SCAFFOLDING

To enable random lengths of lumber to be spliced together for scaffolding without sawing or the use of nails, a metal clamp is being made that results in a great saving of material. Fitted about the posts, the metal bands are wedged into position by a hand lever which also removes them when desired. In this way, short lengths of timber may be used and dismantled more quickly than if they had been joined by bolts or screws.

LAWN MOWER IS SHARPENED LIKE A RAZOR BLADE

Without removing the cutting bar, roller, or handle, a lawn mower may be sharpened by being placed in a machine developed by a western concern. The entire lawn mower is set in the device, which is operated by a pulley, and the blades are sharpened at one operation.



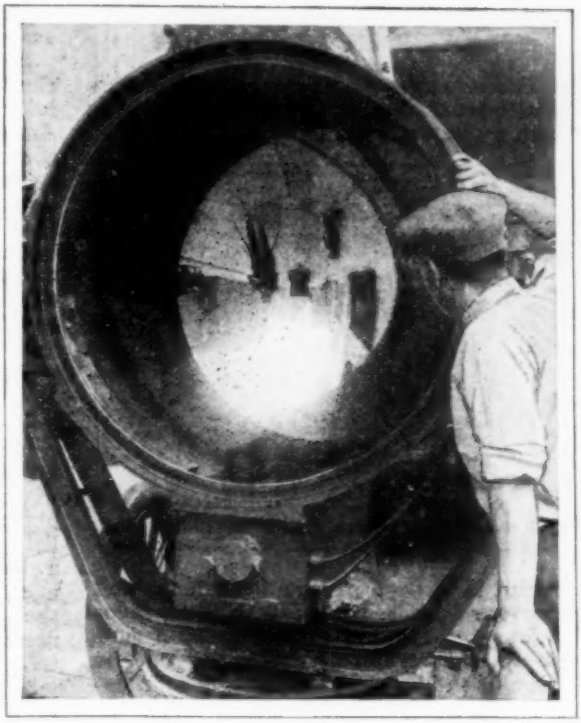
Machine for Sharpening the Blades of a Lawn Mower without Removing Them from Wheels

It is said that this takes less than 15 minutes and saves much of the time that would be required to do it by hand.

"Blind" on Sled for Stalking Seals Gives Added Concealment When Blending with a Snow Background. Knowledge of Their Habits Is Necessary to Approach These Animals

FLAMING BEACONS TO GUIDE FLIGHT OF AIR MAIL

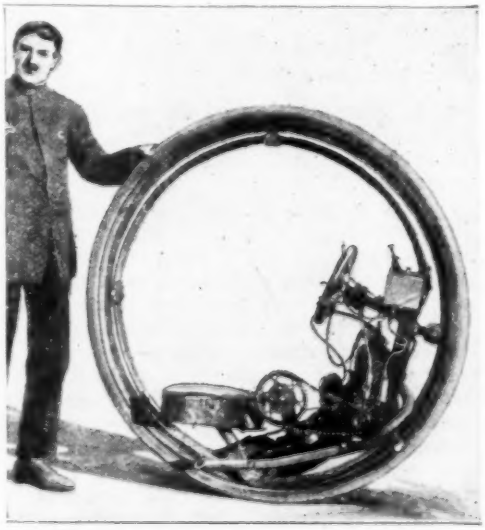
In the nonstop flight of the air mail from coast to coast, the hazards of night flying will be lessened by five huge, flaming, moving beacons of 500,000,000 candlepower each, placed 200 miles apart, to guide birdmen on their plunge through the darkness between Chicago and Cheyenne, Wyo. Trips are so arranged that they will fly in daylight east of Chicago and west of Cheyenne. Revolving on 25-foot pillars three times per minute, these blazing lights will flare up into the dark sky so they can be seen for more than a score of miles. They will be the new milestones of the air, guiding the mariner of the sky in his swift flight through space. Airplanes racing through the night over the great central plains, with engines throbbing and propellers whirling, directed by blazing lights, are declared to mark a new era in the history of aerial navigation.



One of the Giant Lights to Guide the Flight of the Night Mail over the Great Central Plain

"ROUND-YOU-GO" MOTORCYCLE RUNS ON SINGLE WHEEL

While most motorcycles run on two wheels, one recently invented travels on a single wheel that forms an endless track for two small, inner wheels to which are attached the rider's seat and the machine's engine. Driven by electricity, the machine, called the "round-you-go" motorcycle, because of its unusual method of operation, is reported as capable of attaining a fair rate of speed.



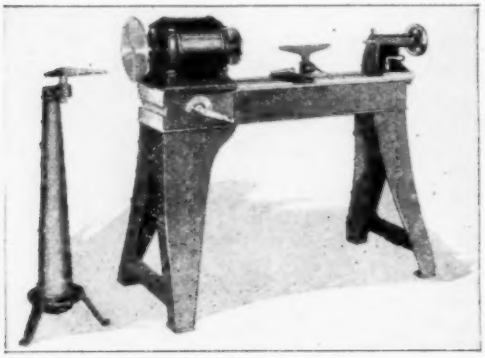
One-Wheel Motorcycle Attains Fair Speed

PADDLE TENNIS IS PLAYED IN ANY-SIZE COURT

Indoors or where sufficient space is not available for large courts, tennis may now be played under the same rules as are used for the ordinary game. The ball is passed between the players by means of paddles instead of rackets. Chalk, paint, tape, or any other material suited to the surface may be used to mark out the boundaries and cross lines. Any small-size court can be laid off in the gymnasium, on the deck of a steamship, or on the sidewalk or street. Stands are made to hold the net, but it may be fastened to chairs or sticks. Any number of persons up to four may take part in paddle tennis in the usual single or double sets.

WOOD-TURNING LATHE HAS MOTOR IN HEADSTOCK

Power-wasting belts and countershafts are done away with in a new wood-turning lathe of unusual design. The



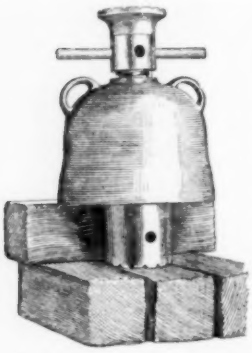
Wood-Turning Lathe with Motor Built into Headstock, Dispensing with Belts and Countershafts

motor is a part of the headstock, and has four speeds, from 570 to 3,450 revolutions per minute, controlled by a simple lever conveniently mounted on the front of the bed. No regulators or rheostats are used, the four speeds being obtained by the use of four different windings in the motor itself.

The rear end of the motor-headstock is fitted with a faceplate for pattern work, and many attachments, such as a band saw, saw table, jointer, and planer, can be fitted to the head end of the bed. The carriage has an automatic feed.

CONTINUOUS-LIFT JACK WORKS EASILY

Using a common jack, it is necessary to block the object lifted when the jack has been screwed out to its limit, then to run the screw in and block the jack to a new height. All this is rendered unnecessary by a continuous-lift jack, which permits a new foundation to be built under it while still sustaining the load. The jack resembles a common bell jack, with a larger bell of low height, but carries, at the lower end of the screw, a cylindrical thrust cap, which is drawn inside the bell as the screw is turned outward.



Blocks are first placed under the rim of the bell, and the jack screwed up until the bottom of the thrust cap is inside the bell. A block is then placed under the cap, and the screw backed down until the load is taken off the bell, which can then be run up the screw until it is close to the jack head. Additional blocking is now placed under the bell rim, and the screw operated again until the thrust cap is within the bell, when the blocking operations are repeated.

PENDULUM INSTRUMENT TESTS HARDNESS OF METALS

Working on an entirely new principle, an instrument for testing the hardness of substances ranging from lead to sapphire has recently been put on the English market. The instrument pivots on a hardened-steel or ruby ball, held in a chuck at its center; this is placed on the piece to be tested and the instrument tilted so that the bubble in a curved tube at the top of the instrument comes to zero on the scale provided. When released, the instrument swings like a pendulum, the swings gradually decreasing in length, owing to the expenditure of energy at the point where the ball rests on the work. The position of the bubble at the end of the first swing shows the work done by the ball on the specimen, and measures its hardness.

There is another method of using the instrument, by means of "time" tests, in which the time for a certain number of swings is taken, and used as a measure of the hardness of the piece being tested.

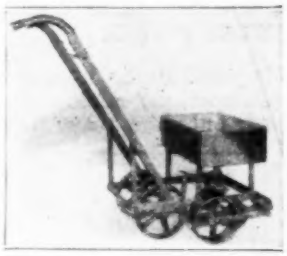
By "reversing" the pendulum, it is claimed that minute differences of hardness may be determined. The instrument dispenses with all microscopic measurements, and the tests take only a few seconds. Heavy loads are not used, so the instrument may be used on thin or fragile articles without risk of breakage or defacing surfaces, which cannot easily be done with other instruments.

DRILL COMBINES STRENGTH AND ACCURACY

High-speed twist drills have in the past been made by two processes, forging and milling. The forged drill was used wherever great strength and penetrating ability were required, while the milled type was used when accuracy was of first importance. Each type had advantages over the other for certain classes of work. A single type of drill, combining the advantages of both the forged and milled drills, is now available. The drill is first hot-forged, to insure strength and toughness, then machined in the same manner as a milled drill, to produce an accurate central web. The cutting quality is thus equal to that of the forged drill.

FLOOR-MARKING MACHINE WORKS CLOSE TO WALL

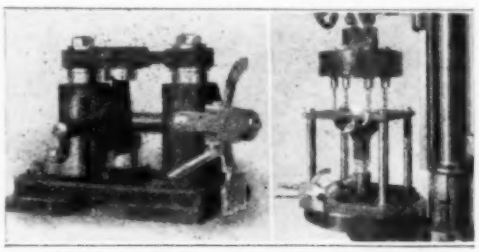
Aisles, safety zones, and stock spaces in factories may be marked off quickly by means of a machine recently placed on the market. The machine is different from the usual type in that the marks can be made close to machines, posts, or side walls, and the work done as quickly as a man can walk. The paint container has a capacity of 6 quarts; the flow of paint is controlled by means of a hand lever, and, when once set, is maintained automatically. The wheels are lined up rigidly so that the machine will run straight without effort on the part of the operator. A 2-in. marking pad is supplied for general factory use; where rough usage is expected, or for marking pavements and streets, a 4-in. marker is furnished.



UNIVERSAL DRILL JIG SAVES TIME IN SHOP

Two types of universal drill jigs, designed to take the place of the common leg-and-box and screw-bushing jigs, respectively, are now available.

The first type consists of a square base with a post at each corner, carrying the plate that contains the drill bushings. The work is set under the plate and locked in position by a plunger, which is forced up by a handle and locked by means of a simple latch. The latter type is similar, except that there are two plungers, carrying the bushing plate, and working downward against the work. These jigs are much more convenient to use than common jigs, as it is merely necessary to place the work on the lower bushing, in one type, or on the plunger in the other, and to pull the handle down, thus locking the piece securely; there is thus no need of removing the jig after once placing it on the drill-press table, and loading and unloading is rapid. Any number of different parts may be drilled by changing the bushings or top plate.



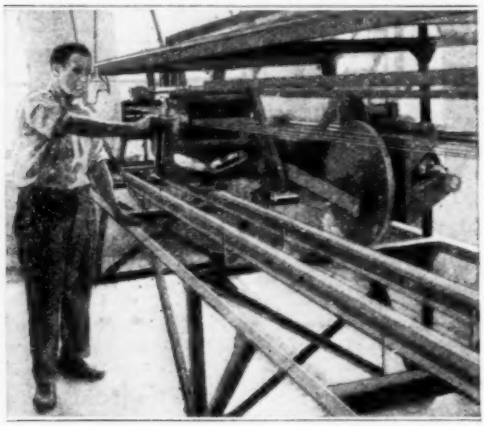
Left, Bushing Type of Jig, with Work in Place; Right, Plate Type on Drill-Press Table

HAND SHAPER AIDS LIGHT WOODWORKING

For rounding corners up to 7/16-in. radius, and for cutting beads and fancy edges on the inside or outside of curved or straight pieces, a small shaper that may be held in the hand has been developed. The tool is electrically driven, and is suitable for use on either alternating or direct current. Bead cutters of almost any design, and radius cutters, ranging from 1/16 to 7/16 in. in size, can be furnished, making the tool a most flexible one. The shaper can be fitted with a chuck for drills, and with a shaft extension for emery wheels, thus further extending its range of usefulness. The motor is provided with an insulated, knurled casing, to provide a cool, easy grip, and an efficient ventilating system is built into it.

GUT STRINGS FOR RACKETS POLISHED BY MACHINE

Sheep-gut strings, used for tennis rackets and musical instruments, may be twisted and polished by means of a machine invented by an eastern string maker.



Twisting and Polishing Gut Strings for Tennis Rackets in One Operation

The machine is 40 feet long, enabling it to take tennis-racket strings at full length. The polishing is done by means of pumice-stone blocks, and, as the strings are twisted while the polishing mechanism moves back and forth, they are polished all around in one operation. The machine does the work hitherto requiring five men, and polishes six gross of tennis-racket strings per day.

A rather interesting point about this process is that the pumice stone used is imported from Italy, where it is quarried on Mt. Vesuvius, and in the Lipari Islands.

HEIGHT OF TRACTOR DRAWBAR QUICKLY ADJUSTED

Tractor drawbars are usually attached at fixed heights, which vary, according to the make of the machine, all the way from 10 to 22 inches. An improved drawbar, which has the same side adjustment as the fixed type, can be adjusted to any height from 8 to 23 inches, thus enabling the farmer to "hook" any implement to his tractor at the best draft height. The adjustment only requires a few seconds, and as the height of the drawbar has a decided influence on the efficient working of implements such as plows, harrows, etc., this drawbar is decidedly practical.

By means of a simple derrick arm, attached to the rear of the tractor, plows can instantly be raised or lowered, when entering or leaving a furrow, when backing, or to allow them to pass over obstructions.

PIPES LINED WITH CONCRETE BY MACHINE

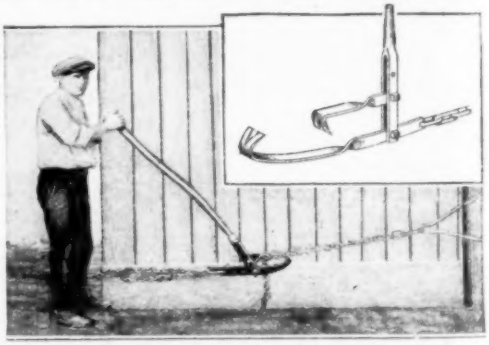
With the object of avoiding incrustation, it has been American practice for some years past to line metal water pipes with a thin coat of cement, applied by means of a brush, cement gun, or by hand.

During the course of some experiments in England it was discovered that the machines used in the centrifugal-casting process of making concrete pipe could also be used for lining steel and cast-iron pipe, the resulting coating being very dense, and attached very firmly to the inside of the pipe. In large pipes, the lining is made about ½ inch in thickness, but this may be increased to 1 inch where desired.

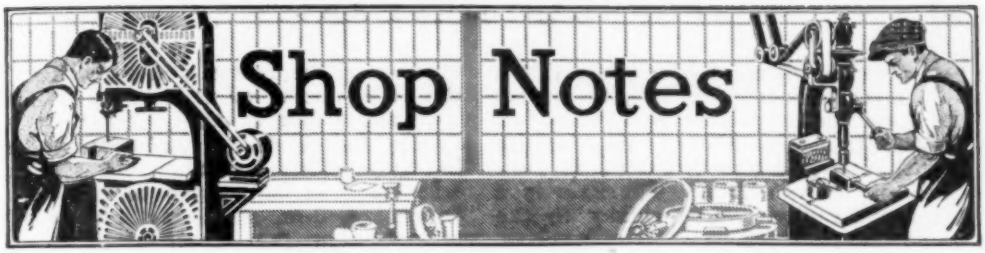
Using this process, new pipes, which are considerably lighter than standard cast-iron pipes, have been made in sizes ranging from 4 to 72 inches in diameter.

POWERFUL ONE-MAN WIRE STRETCHER

While not new in principle, an improved wire stretcher, with specially made chain, and claws that hook onto the heavy links of the chain, deserves mention as being very powerful in action. It will stretch 40 rods of wire in one operation. It may also be used instead of block and tackle to raise heavy trees, to pull automobiles up embankments, or to draw spreading walls of buildings back into place.



Wire Stretcher Operating with a Chain: Insert, Close-Up of the Claw Arms



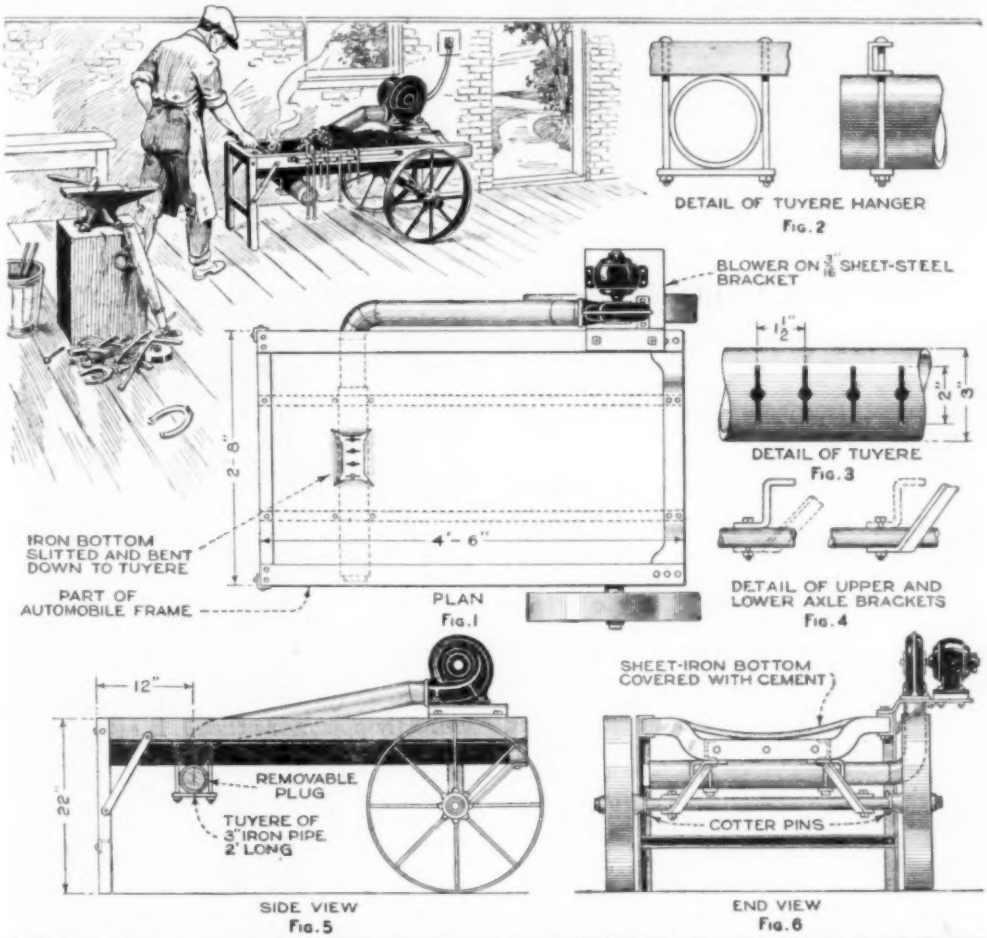
All Shop Notes published in 1922, in book form—Fifty Cents—from our Book Department.

A Portable Electric Forge

BY EDWIN M. LOVE

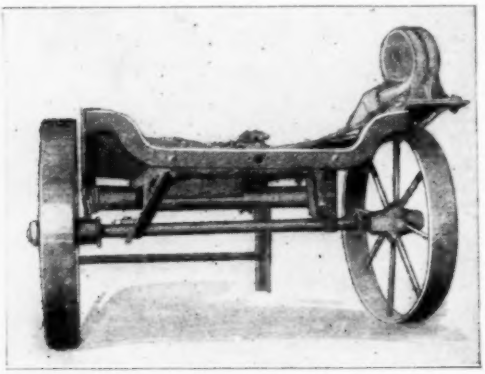
A PORTABLE forge, large enough to take care of any ordinary automobile or wagon work, is a great convenience in and around the small workshop, and will also be appreciated on the farm. The one shown in the illustrations has proved its usefulness in the shop where it was built, as it can be moved about easily. The blower is operated by electricity, which is available in cities and towns, and also on most farms.

The frame of the forge consists of the rear end of an automobile frame, cut to a length of 4½ ft. and covered with a



Figures 1, 5, and 6 Show the Plan, Side View, and End View of the Forge. Figures 2, 3, and 4 Give Details of the Tuyère Hangers, the Tuyère Draft Outlets, and the Axle Brackets

heavy dished sheet of iron; over this a 3-in. layer of cement is laid, to protect the iron from the intense heat of the fire. To this frame is attached an axle with two steel wheels and two legs, as indicated in the illustration. The axle is a 1½-in. iron pipe, bolted rigidly to the frame by means of four flat-iron brackets, as shown in Figs. 4 and 6. The wheels

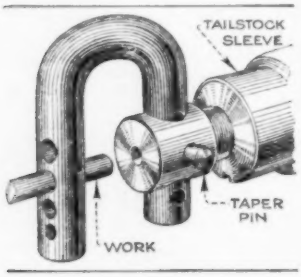


Rear View of a Portable Electric Forge That Is Very Convenient for Use in the Shop

themselves are the kind used on farm implements, and can be found in most junk heaps. The legs at the front of the forge are lengths of angle iron bolted to the corners of the frame, and supported by flat braces, attached as shown. An electric motor and a small blower are securely bolted to a 3/16-in. sheet-steel bracket, which extends over the left wheel and is bolted and braced to the frame. A 3-in. sheet-steel blower pipe extends from the blower to the tuyère, which is made of the same-size iron pipe, and is located underneath the front end of the forge. The tuyère is suspended by hangers from two lengths of channel iron running lengthwise underneath the frame, and is bolted to it at each end, as indicated by the dotted lines in Fig 1. Each hanger, as shown in Fig. 2, consists of two long bolts and a cross plate, drilled to slip over the ends of the bolt and held by nuts. The open end of the tuyère is closed with a removable wooden plug, so that the ashes that sift through the draft outlets can easily be removed. The draft outlets of the tuyère, as shown in Fig. 3, are simply holes and cuts in the pipe; they are made by drilling four 3/8-in. holes and slitting the pipe crosswise, 1 in. on each side of the holes, with a cutting torch. At the point where these draft outlets are located, the iron bottom of the forge is slitted; the slits are 4 in. long, and the flaps thus formed are bent down to the tuyère and cement-lined.

Supporting Long, Thin Bars

The support shown in the drawing will be found very useful by anyone having a variety of bar work to do on the lathe, especially when the bars are long and small in diameter. Centering does not work very well in these cases, the diameter not being large enough.



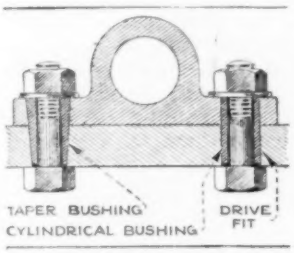
A piece of 5/8-in. cold-rolled steel rod is bent over as shown, one end fitting into a holder that is turned on the shank to fit the tailstock sleeve. When these two parts are finished so far, they are fitted together, and a hole is drilled through both. Three other holes in line with this one are similarly drilled, then all are reamed for a taper pin. The pin is driven tightly into the holder and the first hole in the rod, and a hole for one size of bar is then drilled and reamed through the opposite end of the support, using a drill held in the lathe chuck. The taper pin is then driven into the next hole in the support, and another size of hole is drilled and reamed, and so on. When in use, the support is held in an upright position on the tailstock, the taper pin being inserted in the hole in line with the hole required for the work, which is held on the other end by a collet or a three-jaw chuck.

Etching Glass

Most of the processes for etching on glass call for hydrofluoric acid, which is difficult to obtain and to store, and is so violently poisonous that it is even dangerous to health if inhaled; it also causes intense irritation to the hands. However, a dilute solution, for immediate use, is easily made by dissolving 20 gr. of sodium fluoride in 10 oz. of water, and adding 15 minims of hydrochloric acid (poison). This solution should be used with care, the hands being protected with rubber gloves and the solution handled in rubber or wax-covered trays.

Combination Dowel and Bolt

Bolts, studs, or capscrews cannot be depended on to prevent lateral shifting of assembled machine parts, their main function being to hold the parts closely together. To prevent lateral shifting, taper pins or dowels are usually used, if there are no machined male and female interlocking sections provided. In cases where there is little room for dowels, hollow dowels can be used, the bolts then passing through the dowels, as indicated. The holes are taper-bored, or taper-reamed, and a taper bushing is driven in, then the bolt, stud, or capscrew is passed through and tightened. If a taper dowel is impracticable, a parallel hole is drilled, and a cylindrical bushing driven in. The bolts should fit freely in the bushings.



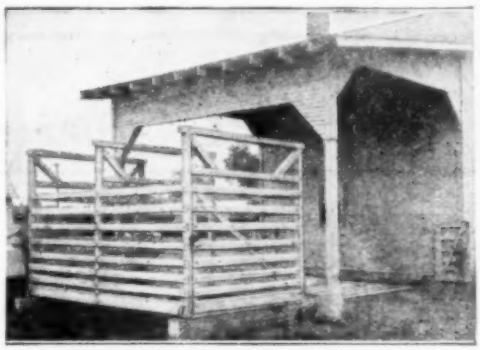
Homemade Horizontal Tool Grinder

A horizontal tool grinder is often more convenient than the common vertical kind. A novel tool grinder of this kind for the home workshop is shown in the accompanying photograph.

A carborundum or emery stone is attached to the mechanism of an old cream separator by fastening a 3/8-in. bolt to the bowl, and allowing the threaded end to extend above the latter far enough to take the emery wheel, washers, and nut. The advantages of this grinder are its substantial base, high gear, and convenient working height.

Live-Stock Frame for Farm Scales

The photograph shows a frame for farm scales, mounted on rollers and a track, so that it can easily be pushed over

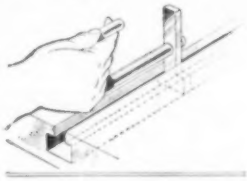


Convenient Live-Stock Frame for Farm Scales: It is Mounted on Rollers Running on Tracks

the scales when needed for weighing live stock. It is substantially built and well braced at the top, a feature that is not possible with a frame that must be taken apart in order to move it off and onto the scales. This kind of frame saves considerable time and much lifting, as it only takes a few moments to push it into place over the scale platform and to open the end gate.—J. C. Allen, LaFayette, Ind.

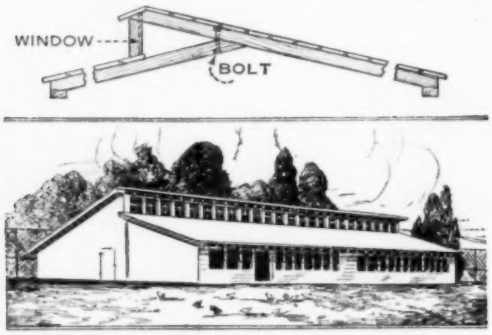
T-Slot Cleaner

When equipped with a tool like that shown in the drawing, it is an easy matter to clean out machine T-slots thoroughly from end to end. A piece of round steel is used for the handle, and a flat piece, shaped to fit the slots, is fastened to it loosely by a washer and screw. In assembling the tool, the handle is attached to the scraper so that the former rests on the surface of the table when the T-piece is in the slot. By making it this way, the tool can be drawn along forcibly without jamming in the slot. When using the tool, the straight part is run through the slot first to break up the cuttings, and then the other end is turned down and run through it to finish the operation.



Rafter Design for Semimonitor Laying House

In the simple rafter design illustrated, cross braces are dispensed with, thus eliminating undesirable roosting places for the

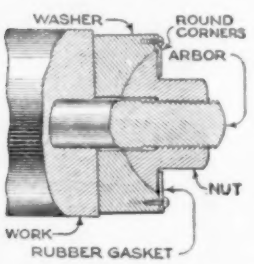


A Semimonitor Laying House with a Simple Rafter Construction Having No Cross Braces

fowl, and permitting a much lower roof construction than usual, which makes for a warmer house. The rafters are joined in pairs, a bolt being used to fasten them at the point of junction, as shown; washers are used on both ends of the bolt so that it will not tear through the rafters. One rafter is extended a few feet beyond the bolt, and a vertical brace is attached to it near the end, and to the other rafter below. Windows are fitted between the vertical braces as shown in the drawing. Rafters for spans not greater than 12 ft. may be made of 2 by 4-in. material, but for spans between 12 and 18 ft., 2 by 6-in. stuff must be used.—Edward R. Smith, Walla Walla, Wash.

Floating Nut and Washer for Arbors

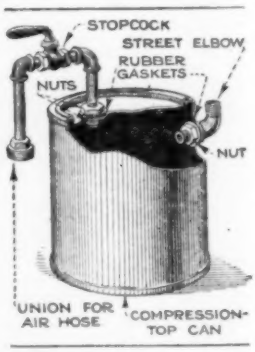
An ordinary nut and washer, used to tighten work on a threaded arbor, serves very well when the face of the work is square with the axis, but there are occasions when the work is not square or the face is left rough. Some method of "floating" the washer must then be tried, or else the arbor will be bent when the nut is tightened. The nut and washer shown were designed to be used on work having one face milled off at an angle, the pieces being afterward finished off in the lathe on a threaded arbor. The shouldered nut is turned to a radius on one end and the washer turned to fit it. The bore of the washer should be larger than the diameter of the arbor shank, in order to allow for the necessary "float." To keep the nut and washer together to facilitate handling, and also to exert a slight tension to keep them both in line when off the arbor, a rubber gasket is fastened to the back of the washer by four screws, as indicated. A thin sheet-metal washer underneath the heads of the screws will prevent them from cutting into the rubber. With the floating movement shown, the nut always tightens up in line with the shank of the arbor, and thus there is no danger of straining and bending the latter.



Blowing Soapstone through Conduit

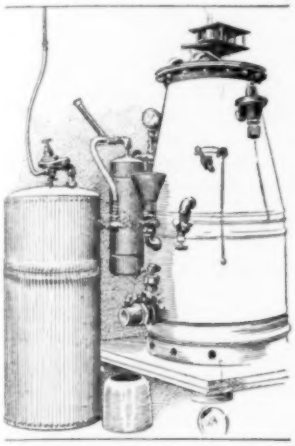
Soapstone is generally used by electricians to facilitate pulling rubber-covered wires through conduit, but it is not an easy matter to force the soapstone through long lengths of conduit. On large jobs where compressed air is available, the soapstone can be blown through with the device shown in the illustration.

It consists of a tin compression-top can, with an inlet for the compressed air and an outlet for the soapstone. The inlet, which can be located conveniently on the cover, is fitted with a union on the end for connecting to the air hose, and a stopcock for controlling the supply. The outlet, which consists of a street elbow, is fitted on the side as indicated. Rubber gaskets are used to make the connections on the can air-tight. To use the device, a handful or two of soapstone is put in the compression can, the street elbow is inserted into the end of the conduit through which the wire is to be run, and the air pressure is then applied, which will blow the soapstone through with considerable force, and will prevent it from accumulating in the pipe. Very little air pressure is necessary; and as any high degree of pressure will blow the top from the can, the stopcock should be opened gently.—W. W. Parker, Lead, S. D.



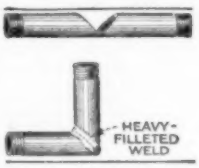
Increasing Capacity of Acetylene Generator

A welder who uses a popular make of acetylene generator found that it did not generate rapidly enough to supply a heavy welding tip for a considerable length of time. To remedy this, he cut a section from an old hot-water tank, welded the two remaining pieces together, and connected the resulting tank with the generator, as illustrated in the drawing. The regulator was put on the auxiliary tank. The generator was thus enabled to store a larger quantity of acetylene, and the feeding mechanism operated with greater efficiency, with the result that a large tip could be used without difficulty.



An Emergency Elbow

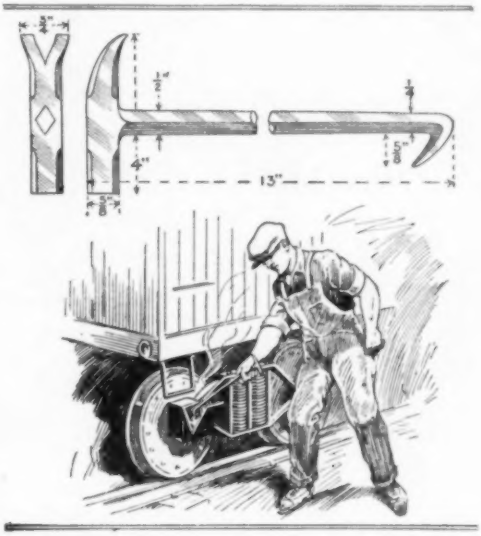
When installing a large overhead-irrigation system, we found that an additional 3-in. elbow was needed, and as it was necessary to finish the job at once, we resorted to making an elbow from a piece of pipe. A 4-in. length was threaded at both ends and a V-notch cut out of the center as shown, the cuts being made with an acetylene torch. The back of the pipe, which was left untouched, was heated to a cherry red and bent as indicated, so that the ends of the pipe were at right angles to each other, a carpenter's T-square being used to test the accuracy of the angle. The seam was then welded, with a heavy fillet; this completed the elbow, which served the purpose just as well as an ordinary one.—A. S. Jamieson, Springfield, Mass.



¶When making finishing cuts on a milling machine, use a fine-toothed mill.

Car Inspector's Tack Hammer and Journal Hook

The combined tack hammer and journal hook shown in the illustration is simple to make and has proved to be of considerable usefulness for railroad-car



A Combined Tack Hammer and Journal Hook That Greatly Facilitates Railroad-Car Inspection

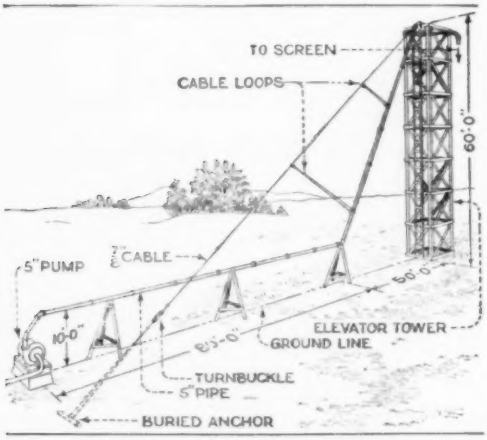
inspection, as it eliminates the necessity of carrying separate tools. This tool allows the inspector to do his work without getting oil on his hands, and as a result the record books and "bad-order" cards will be clean. The tool can be made from a scrap coke fork. One end is bent over to form a hook for "feeling" the journals to detect cuts, etc., and a hammer head and claw are formed at the other end. The tool is strong enough to be used for prying doors open. The measurements of the tool are given in the detail, but can, of course, be varied as desired.—T. B. Aldridge, Jr., Denver, Colo.

Novel Method of Lowering Tank into Pit

An ingenious method of lowering a large steel fuel-oil tank into its pit, in the absence of suitable derricks or tackle, was adopted in a small British Columbia generating plant. All the tank outlets were plugged, the pit was filled with water, and the tank simply rolled into it. It naturally floated on the surface of the water, which, when pumped out, allowed the tank to sink into position gradually.—G. R. Dyment, Hamilton, Can.

Supporting a Long Discharge Pipe

When installing a 5-in. centrifugal pump to furnish water for the screens at a gravel-washing plant, it was decided to run the discharge pipe so that no bend



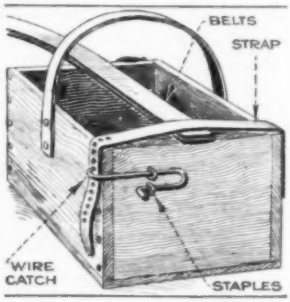
Efficient Method of Supporting a Long Discharge Pipe at a Gravel-Washing Plant

would be greater than 45°, in order to eliminate friction as much as possible. The pipe was run from the pump to an elevation about 10 ft. above the ground, and was carried for a distance of about 80 ft. at this elevation, three tripods being used to support it. A 45° bend was then made, and the pipe run up to the top of a 60-ft. elevator tower. The pipe was strong enough to support itself while being erected, but sagged about 2 ft. in the middle, necessitating additional support. A ⅞-in. cable was run from the top of the elevator tower to an anchor in the ground near the pump. A turnbuckle was fitted in the cable near the ground, so that it could be reached easily. Two loops were clamped around the main cable and the pipe as shown, and, by screwing the turnbuckle, the middle of the pipe was lifted until it was straight. This arrangement, which eliminated clumsy timber supports, has been in use for two years and has held the pipe quite securely.

The ease of erection of this support is one of its commendable features. The anchor was fixed first, and the cable was then run from the top of the tower to the turnbuckle, and then attached to the anchor, being drawn tight by means of rope blocks before clamping it to the turnbuckle. To get the loops of cable around the main cable and the pipe, a snatch block with a hand line was attached to the main cable at the top. A seat was attached to the hook of the snatch block so that a man could ride down the cable. A set of rope blocks were also hung on the main cable with a sliding sling around the pipe. As the man was lowered to the position of the lower loop, he slid the set of rope blocks along with him, these being used to draw the main cable and pipe together before attaching the cable loops. After the lower loop was made and clamped to the main cable, the process was repeated at the upper loop, and the man then pulled back to the top of the tower. The turnbuckle was then screwed up a few turns to straighten out the pipe.—A. W. Burg, Lake View, Ia.

Holding Belts for Cutting and Punching

The drawing shows how a belt repairman utilizes his tool box as a holder for the ends of the belts while measuring them for cutting and punching. One end of a leather strap is nailed to one side of the box; the other end of the strap is left loose and has a number of holes punched in it. A slide catch, made of stout wire, is used to hold the strap. This wire is bent to a hook shape at one end, so that it will enter the strap holes and a hole in the box, and is held to the box by means of a couple of staples, as indicated. The ends of the belt are clamped by placing them between the box top and the strap, the latter being pulled tight and the hook passed through the strap into the hole in the box. The belt is held securely, as the weight of the contents holds it down while it is unrolled.



Filing Crosscut Saws

The work of sharpening crosscut saws is greatly facilitated by marking off the correct tooth angle, which is 30°, on the top of the saw clamp at 1-in. intervals. If the file is kept parallel to the marks while filing the saw, the angle of the teeth is sure to be correct.—Fred W. Page, Winfield, Kan.

A Reboring Fixture for the Garage

By J. V. ROMIG

WHEN the automobile engine is being thoroughly overhauled, all connecting rods and pistons are refitted. Oversize wristpins are usually fitted where the original ones are worn enough to warrant it, the wristpin holes being reamed to fit.

The reaming process is not a very accurate one, and many pistons so fitted either stand "cocked" in the cylinders, causing excessive wear and unsatisfactory operation, or, if the connecting rod is twisted and set so that the piston will check with an alinement gauge, the wristpin itself is not properly fitted, and wears rapidly. A better way to fit new wristpins, and one that insures alinement, is to rebore the holes, and to use the reamer merely to size them.

Reboring a Connecting-Rod Big End with a Portable Hand Fixture: Note How the Rod is Clamped

The fixture described in this article will do this job perfectly and quickly, and can be used for a multitude of small boring jobs where accuracy is required; for instance, connecting rods can be rebored, after babbitting, by the addition of two V-blocks to the fixture. Anyone with ordinary mechanical skill can build the tool easily, and will be more than repaid by the improved quality of the work done with it.

The worktable, full dimensions of which are given, is made of gray cast iron, from an easily made pattern. The top and edges must be planed perfectly flat and at right angles, and particular care should be taken with the planing or shaping of the 2-in. side groove, and the 2¼-in. top groove, to insure that they are square with all surfaces.

The table is mounted on a 3-in. pipe column, which screws into a threaded hole in a boss on the underside of the table casting. The base of the column is a pipe flange, by means of which the machine is bolted to the bench. All parts should be screwed up tightly.

Two slots are cut through the front of the table, as shown, for the passage of the boring-head clamp bolt, and holes for ½-in. studs drilled and tapped in the surface of the table. Holes for ⅜-in. screws are drilled and tapped in the back edge of the casting, to hold the braces.

The boring-bar head is a bronze casting, 9½ in. long over all, and is machined as shown in Figs. 1, 2, and 5. The arms are bored and threaded for the 1¼-in. boring bar; this job is best done by clamping the head to the faceplate of a lathe, after shaping. The arms are then drilled and tapped for the adjusting screws and slitted, as shown in Fig. 2. The boring bar, which is made of steel, is now turned, bored, and threaded, as shown in Fig. 3. The thread pitch is 32 per inch, and the screw should be fitted accurately in the arms of the head. As will be noted, there are two boring bars, a main bar and an auxiliary one. The main bar is 9½ in. long, and is turned down to 1⅛ in. diameter for about ¾ in. at each end. At the nose end, a ⅜-in. square hole is machined for the tool bits, and at the other, a ⅝-in. round hole for the crank handle. The latter is made of ⅝-in. cold-rolled steel, turned down to ½ in., except for the ball end and the center portion, which latter is left ⅝ in. in diameter to fit the hole in the bar. A setscrew hole is drilled and tapped in this ⅝-in. section for the clamp screw.

The tools are clamped by means of a ⅝-in. tool pin, sliding in the hollow bar, and pushed against the bits by means of the tool-clamp screw just mentioned. One end of the pin is spotted to receive the pointed end of the screw.

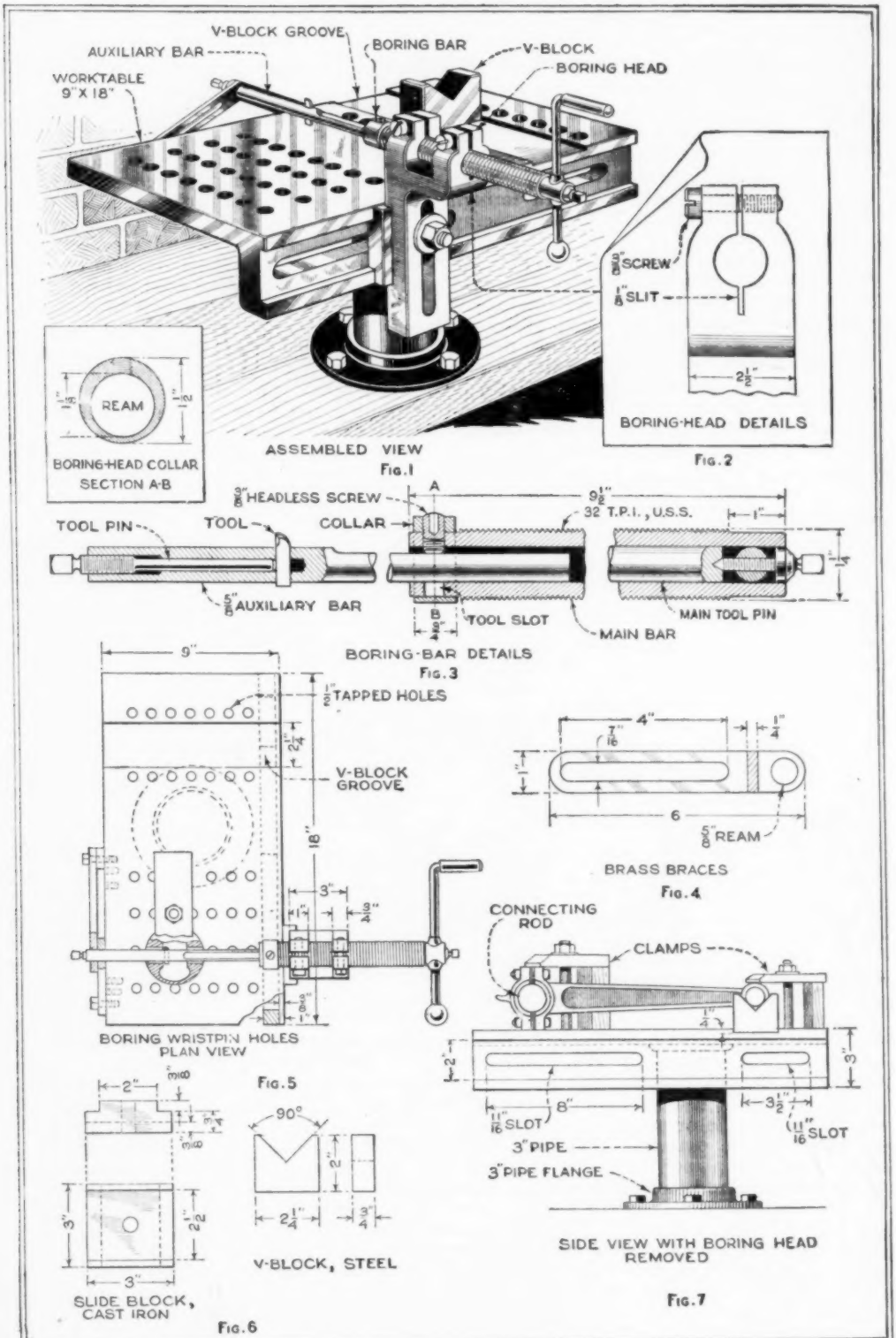


Figure 1 Shows the Fixture Completely Assembled; Figure 2, Details of the Boring Head; Figure 3, Main and Auxiliary Boring Bars; Figure 4, Braces for Auxiliary Bar; Figure 5, Set-Up for Boring Wristpin Holes; Figure 6, Dimensions of Blocks, and Fig. 7, Method of Reboring Connecting Rods

When boring wristpin holes, it is necessary to use an auxiliary bar, which is shown in position in Fig. 1, and in detail in Fig. 3. This bar telescopes into the larger one, the main tool pin first being removed, and is locked in position by the special collar shown in the detail. The headless setscrew in the collar is run through the tool-bit hole in the main bar and tightened on a flat milled on the auxiliary bar. The tool in this bar is also clamped by a tool pin, which, in this case, is a part of the clamp screw.

When boring a piston of large diameter, it is necessary to adjust the bar for each hole. The use of the auxiliary bar also necessitates the making of the brass or bronze braces shown in Fig. 4. These are fitted as indicated in Figs. 1 and 5, and keep the bar true and steady.

The feed is secured by the action of the threaded bar, turning the crank to the right feeding the bar forward, and to the left, backward. If it is desired to cut on the backward movement, the tool, of course, must be reversed. When the work is clamped close to the head, quite heavy cuts can be taken in the softer metals.

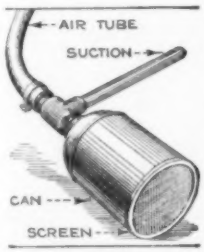
The method of boring wristpin holes is indicated in Fig. 5. To insure accuracy when sizing, after the holes are rebored, a shell reamer should be used, held on the boring bar. For connecting rods, two V-blocks should be made, hardened and finished by grinding so as to be as accurate as possible; these must fit snugly, without any side play, in the groove in the table top. When reboring a connecting-rod "big end," a wristpin is slipped through its bearing and laid on the V-blocks, one being placed on each side of the bearing. The rod is then clamped down, as indicated in Fig. 7, and bored, using only the main bar, with the assurance that all bearings will be square.

When boring the wristpin bearing for an oversize pin, the same method is followed, using a mandrel in the big-end bearing. As the feed is 1/32 in., the tools used should be ground with a flat top, slightly over 1/32 in. wide, so that the tool marks will overlap.

Bushings that are too small in the bore can be rebored by clamping them in one of the V-blocks; the machine can also be used for most work that cannot be handled in the drill press because of the lack of large drills, and, as no power is necessary, it may be carried close to the work, and clamped or bolted to any convenient bench.

Suction Cleaner for Machinery

A handy suction cleaner for use around machines, such as knitting and paper-perforating machines, weaving looms, etc., is a great convenience. A cleaner of this kind can readily be made to operate on compressed air, if constructed as shown in the illustration. It is made from a discarded benzine can and a few standard 1/2-in. pipe fittings. The bottom of the can is cut out, leaving a margin of about 1/4 in., to which is soldered a piece of fine brass screen. The cap of the can is removed and a short nipple soldered in its place. A tee is screwed on the nipple, and a length of pipe, about 1 ft. long, into the tee, this pipe being flattened at one end so that the opening will be about 1/8 or 1/16 in. wide. It is not essential to have the pipe straight; it may be bent to any convenient shape, and its length may also vary to suit the user. Another short nipple is screwed into the tee, as shown, to permit the attachment of the air hose. The rapid passage of air from the hose through the can creates a strong suction in the pipe, and the dirt and scraps of light material are easily picked up and deposited in the can. Where fine dirt or dust is to be cleaned up, a cloth bag, such as a mailing bag, is tied over the bottom of the can to retain the fine particles. Unscrewing the connection at the tee permits the contents of the can to be shaken out.—H. I. Wheeler, Westwood, Mass.



Comfortable Handles for Buckets

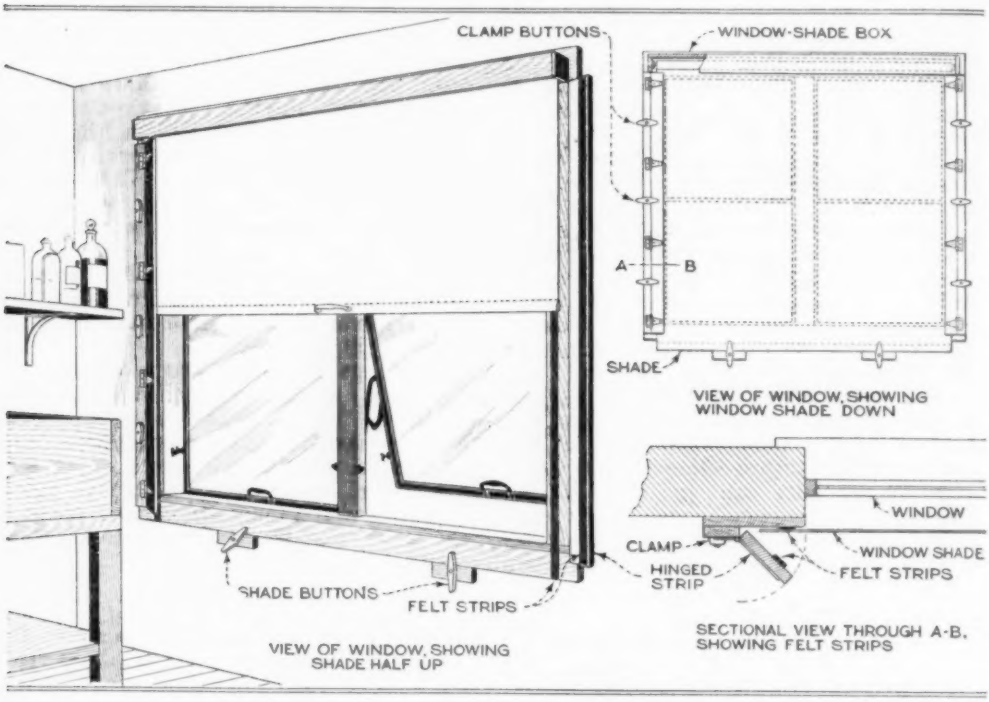
I have found that a short length of flexible metallic tubing, such as is used by electricians, provides a comfortable handle for a bucket. It is slipped over the wire handle with which the bucket is equipped. On a job where we had several heavy paint buckets to carry, all of them were fitted with these handles, which made the job very easy on the hands. Pieces of waste tubing can be picked up around almost any new building where the wiring is being installed. —Reuben Stafford, Jr., Washington, District of Columbia.

Making Window of Dark Room Light-Proof

The method of making the window of the dark room light-proof shown in the drawing should prove of interest to professional photographers, or even to the amateur, as it is a very simple one. This is the method used in Popular Mechanics' dark room, and has proved entirely satisfactory.

Strips of wood, ½ in. thick by 5 in. wide, and as long as the window frame, are fastened to the wall on either side of the window, as shown. On the outside of these strips, ¾ by 1¾-in. strips are nailed, and ½ by 3¼-in. strips attached to them by hinges. The 5-in. and hinged 3¼-in. strips are faced with felt, as shown in the sectional view, the window shade, when down, being gripped tightly by the felt. Wooden turn buttons are used to clamp the hinged strips when closed, and two other buttons, mounted on strips of wood fastened to the wall below the window, are used to hold the lower end of the shade tightly against the wall. The shade roller is inclosed in a light-tight box, as shown in the perspective and front views.

When the shade is up, the hinged strips are open; when it is desired to darken the room, the shade is drawn down, fastened by means of the lower buttons, and the hinged strips closed and clamped tightly by means of the side buttons. The free working of the shade is thus not interfered with in the least, while it is perfectly light-proof in use.



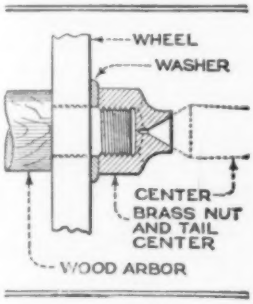
Method of Making the Dark-Room Window Light-Proof of Interest Not Only to the Professional, but Also, Because of Its Simplicity, to the Amateur Photographer

Soldering Tinfoil

When making fixed condensers for use in radio work, it is often desirable to solder leads to the tinfoil sheets. This is difficult to do because the solder does not readily adhere to the tinfoil, and because the foil melts so easily. This difficulty can be avoided by placing the foil on a sheet of copper, and using a flux made of vaseline, paraffin, and sal ammoniac. The vaseline and paraffin, in equal parts, are heated and mixed together. While the liquid mixture is still hot, half the total bulk of sal ammoniac is added. The whole is then thoroughly mixed and allowed to cool. The flux thus made is effective, providing, of course, the work is thoroughly clean.—Leroy Western, Plainfield, N. J.

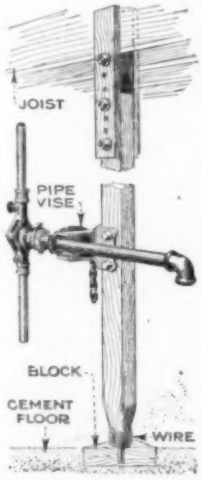
Tail Center for Wooden Arbors

The use of a wooden arbor is at times necessary in woodworking and pattern making, for special work; emery and sandpaper wheels are also usually mounted on wooden arbors. However, workmen sometimes hesitate to use one because the wood around the tail center has a tendency to split open while revolving at a high rate of speed, which loosens the arbor and is, of course, dangerous. This danger can be eliminated by screwing a combined brass nut and center on the end of the arbor. The nut is made of hexagon brass stock, threaded to screw on the wooden end, and is center-drilled to fit the lathe center, as indicated in the illustration.



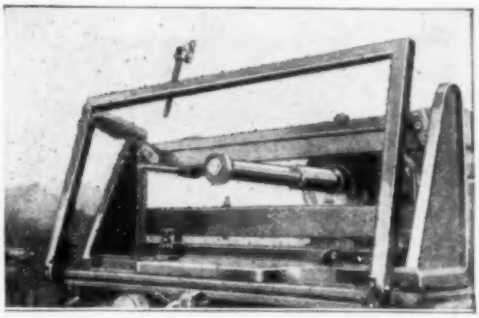
Pipe Fitter's Vise Support

Pipe fitters usually do their work before the inside of the building is finished, and, consequently, it is often a problem to find a suitable place for the pipe vise, particularly in the basement. The arrangement illustrated makes it possible, however, to use a pipe vise wherever the floor joists are exposed, anchorage being obtained by a pin driven into the wire-wound foot of the upright. A 2 by 4-in. stick is used for the upright, with two pieces of 1½-in. boards bolted to opposite sides, for clamping the device to an overhead floor joist. The pin in the bottom end is made from ¾-in. rod, and is allowed to project about 3 in., fitting into a small hole drilled in the joist. In the basement, a hole may be chipped in the floor, and a wood block fitted to take the pin, as shown, or a small hole drilled right in the floor. In either case, it is a simple matter to fill up the hole.



Clamp for Cylinder Grinder

A mechanic, finding that the regular clamps furnished on his cylinder-grinding machine did not hold the cylinder block solidly enough to prevent a slight vibration—which tended to produce imperfect cylinder walls—constructed the clamp shown in the photograph to overcome the difficulty.



An Additional Clamp on a Cylinder-Grinding Machine to Prevent Vibration

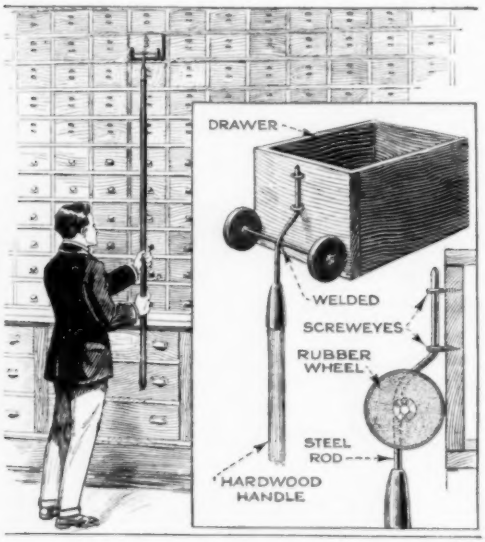
It consists of a U-shaped frame, made by welding together 1-in. iron bars, and hinged to lugs bolted to the grinder carriage. A hole is drilled and tapped in the horizontal bar to receive a setscrew fitted with a crank handle. When the cylinder block has been placed in readiness for grinding, the clamp is swung to a suitable position over the block and the setscrew is screwed down against it. Since the clamp has been used, vibration marks and spoiled cylinders have been eliminated.

A Sprinkler Guard

The moving stairway in a large department store ran close to a line of sprinkler piping, and the sprinkler-head links were often accidentally broken or brushed by parcels carried by persons using it, or tampered with by meddlers. To prevent this, a simple guard was made and placed over each head within reach of the stairway. The guards consisted of a clamp made of sheet metal, fitting around the base of the head, and provided with a number of U-shaped wires, soldered into holes drilled in the upper edge of the clamp, as shown. Since installing these, no further trouble has been experienced.

Lifter for High Drawers

In stores where an increase of stock of small parts makes it necessary to put in drawers above the original ones, if lack of floor space does not permit addi-



Handy Drawer Lifter for Reaching High Drawers in Stores Where a Rolling Ladder is Not Fitted

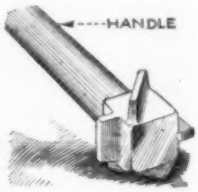
tional cabinets, or it is not desired to install these, a rolling ladder is commonly used. However, a good substitute for a rolling ladder is a drawer lifter of the kind shown in the drawing. This even has advantages over a rolling ladder in that it does not take so much space, and as several may be provided if necessary, no time is wasted in waiting for the ladder until some one else has finished using it farther along the shelves.

It consists of a strong hardwood handle on which is fitted a short length of steel rod, bent to the shape shown. A crosspiece of the same size steel rod is welded across the first piece, and small rubber wheels are fitted at each end, these being kept in place by means of cotter pins and washers. In use, the bent rod is slipped into screweyes driven into the front of each drawer, and it is then an easy matter to pull the drawer out and lower it. The length of the handle depends on the height of the upper line of drawers.—L. H. Georger, Buffalo, N. Y.

¶Steam, rising from water at its boiling point of 212° F., has a pressure equal to that of the atmosphere, or 14.7 lb. per square inch.

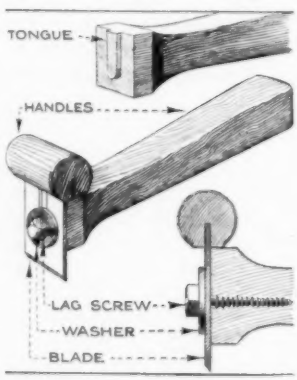
An Offset Screwdriver

For working in very close quarters, an offset screwdriver of the type shown in the drawing will be found very useful. It consists of a handle carrying a head that has four narrow blades formed on it. Each blade is set at an angle of 45° with the two on each side of it, so that in using the tool, it is only necessary to move the handle slightly before one blade can be engaged in the groove of the screw. Where headroom is limited, and a screwdriver cannot be used, this tool will be found to remove the screw much more quickly than the common close-quarters screwdriver, which has but two blades, set at right angles to each other at opposite ends of the handle.



A Good Cabinet Scraper

The illustration shows an easily made wood scraper that has been found very practical for cabinetmakers and other woodworkers. It consists of a wooden handle, shaped square, with slightly rounded corners and edges. The head is square and has a tongue formed on it as indicated. The scraper blade consists of the end of an old plane bit, and is attached to the handle by means of a lag screw or round-head screw driven into the end, a hole being first drilled in the handle, to prevent splitting. If a lag screw or round-head screw is not at hand, a nut can be countersunk to take the head of a flat-head screw, and the two soldered together. To protect the cutting edge of the blade, a short piece of round hardwood, about 1 in. in diameter, and slotted to fit the blade snugly, is provided. This piece is used as a hand rest when using the scraper, being then attached to the top of the blade, as shown.—M. E. Duggan, Kenosha, Wis.



Rotary Blower Made from a Tin Can

BY HOWARD GREEN

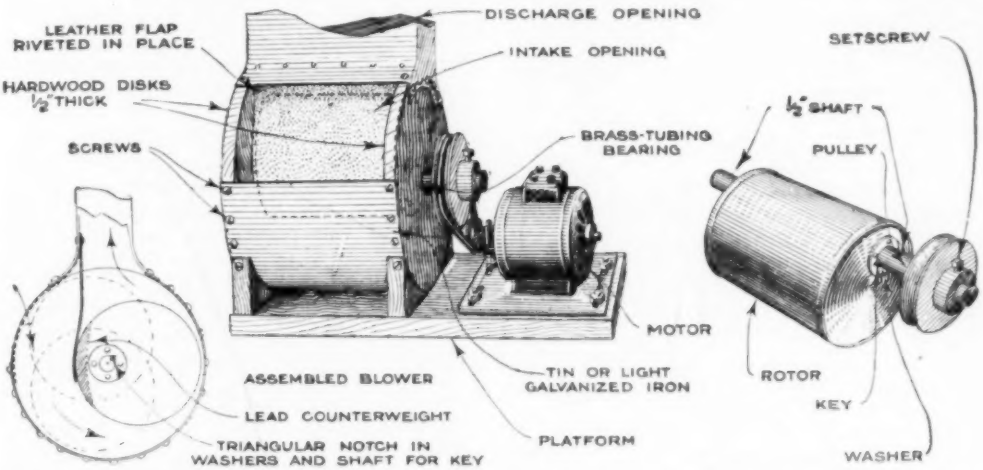
A ROTARY blower that will suffice for the small shop or laboratory can be made with nothing but ordinary tools, except for the wooden end disks, which should be turned in a lathe for best results. However, if the disks are carefully sawed out, even the lathe will not be needed.

The rotor is made from a sheet-metal cylinder, for which purpose a strong tin can may be used; if an extra good job is desired the cylinder may be built up of heavy sheet metal, using wooden ends. A ½-in. hole is made in each end of the can, ⅞ in. from the center, and the holes are reinforced by riveting or soldering on washers with a ½-in. opening; both holes should line up exactly. A piece of ½-in. shaft is fitted through the holes, leaving about 1¼ in. projecting at one end and 2 in. at the other. Triangular notches are filed in each washer and corresponding grooves are cut into the shaft, so that a piece of brass wire can be forced into each of the small keyways thus formed; the shaft is then soldered or brazed to the can, and the outside ends of the keys cut off flush with the washers.

The casing requires two disks, about 6¼ in. in diameter and ½ in. thick; holes are drilled at their centers for the short lengths of brass tubing that form the rotor-shaft bearings. The bearings are forced tightly into the holes, and oil holes drilled in them. The housing is then made from sheet metal, as shown in the drawing, and screwed to the disks, leaving a large opening for the air intake and forming a discharge passage at the top. The wooden ends must be spaced, so that the rotor can turn freely, with about 1/32 in. of end play. The rotor is put in place before the casing is finally assembled. The discharge opening should be curved, as shown in the section, to provide an easy passage for the outgoing air.

The leather flap valve is an exceedingly important part of the blower; leather that is fairly thick, but very soft and pliable, usually gives the best results. It is attached to the lip of the discharge opening with small rivets, as indicated. It will be observed that there is a little clearance between the rotor and casing so that the former can pass the flap at each revolution without sticking.

The rotor should be counterbalanced so that it will run smoothly. When it has been finished, rig up the end disks of the casing temporarily so that the shaft can be put in place and rotated. Attach strips of lead temporarily to the outside of the rotor, at the point nearest the shaft, and run the rotor at a speed of about 250 or 300 revolutions per minute to see how it balances. Try pieces of different weights until one is found that allows the least vibration and seems to balance the rotor properly. When the right weight has been found, melt the lead and pour it through a hole in the end of the can so that it will settle and solidify at the point nearest the shaft. The lead will stick in place if, before the rotor is assembled, the inside is cleaned and coated with a little soldering paste.

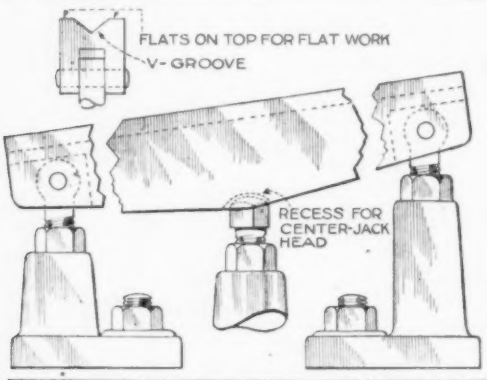


Where a Fairly Large Volume of Air at Low Pressure is Required in the Small Shop, a Blower Made from a Tin Can and Some Scrap Materials will do Satisfactory Work

Give the leather flap a good rubbing with light graphite grease on the side that comes into contact with the rotor, and coat the surface of the latter in the same way, without using too much of the lubricant. The best operating speed will have to be ascertained by experiment, and as the leather valve works itself into shape and acquires pliability, operation will be improved. Sometimes it will be found that a very light strip of wood tacked across the bottom of the leather will help somewhat. Such blowers can be made in any size, but if made with a housing much smaller than 6¼ in. in diameter, the results will be hardly worth while, although it can be made a little smaller and still do fairly good work. It is not intended for high speed; in fact, if driven too fast it will not work well. The operating speed depends largely upon the action of the leather valve, which refuses to function properly beyond a certain speed.

Steady Rest for Tapered Work

The steady rest shown in the drawing will be found a considerable improvement on the ordinary one furnished with a milling machine, which is rather limited



A Steady Rest on a Milling Machine That has been Found to Be of Considerable Usefulness for Tapered Work

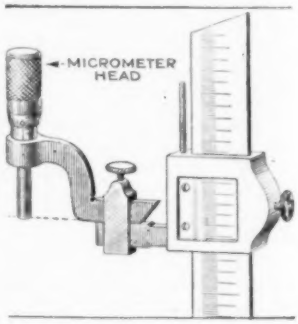
in its use. It consists of a truss-shaped beam, mounted on end jacks as shown, and having a recess cut on the underside to fit on the center-jack head; several center jacks can be used, and the beam made long enough to suit any length of work. A V-shaped groove is cut in the top side, for round work, and the flats are used for flat work. The rest may also be used for grinding.—Henry S. Laraby, New Haven, Conn.

Cheap Concrete Forms

By using tar paper to face forms for rough concrete work, a cheaper grade of wood can be used for making the forms, and the total expense of the forms considerably reduced. They are covered with a single layer of tar paper, and the concrete can be poured in without the danger of its running out through knotholes or cracks. It is also much easier to remove the forms, since the cement will not stick to them as it will to wood forms in which the joints are not tight. This method is particularly adapted to horizontal floor or sidewalk slabs.

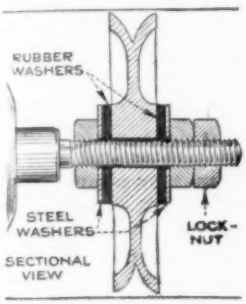
Micrometer Attachment for Height Gauge

In checking a drill jig that had a number of holes in line with each other, I found that a quick method of discovering errors in the location of the holes was to use a micrometer attachment on a vernier height gauge. The micrometer head is fitted into a steel bracket, shaped as shown, and clamped to the gauge in place of the regular blade. When the micrometer thimble is at zero, the end of the spindle is exactly in line with the top of the gauge jaw, thus eliminating any additional calculation. A standard pin is fitted in the first hole, and the height gauge is set so that the micrometer spindle touches the top side of the pin. The reading of the thimble is carefully noted. Having the correct height established in this way, the pin is set into the next hole and the height gauge is slid along so that the micrometer spindle is located above the pin. The spindle is then turned down against the top side of the pin as before. If the reading is the same in both cases the holes are in line; if not, the amount of error is at once apparent. In this way all the holes can be carefully measured.—Alexander Malcolm, Providence, R. I.



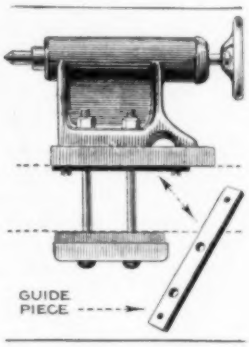
Fastening Pulley to Small Motor

A small pulley that is not subject to heavy load can be held on the motor shaft without a key or a setscrew. The entire length of the shaft outside of the motor is threaded and the pulley is fitted on the shaft between two rubber washers. These are forced tightly against the face of the pulley by means of nuts screwed on the shaft. Thin steel washers are, of course, used between the nuts and the rubber washers, and a locknut is provided, to prevent the other nuts from loosening. With this arrangement the pulley will not slip unless placed under an abnormally heavy load.



Improving Lathe Tailstock Clamp

In a popular engine lathe the tailstock is clamped to the ways by means of two bolts, which pass through the base of the tailstock and extend down through a clamping bar that bears on the lower edge of the lathe bed. As these bolts are held loosely at their upper ends, there is a decided tendency for the clamping bar to bind when the tailstock is moved along the ways, unless the bolts are loosened far enough to allow the bar to clear the lathe bed, which necessitates several part turns of the nuts.



This trouble has been overcome by installing a guide piece as shown in the illustration. It consists of a flat piece of steel, ¼ in. thick and 1¼ in. wide, with two small holes drilled through it to receive screws that fasten it to the base of the tailstock, and two larger holes which are a snug fit for the bolts. With the addition of this guide piece, a quarter turn on the nuts is sufficient to permit the tailstock to be moved easily.—Edwin Kilburn, Spring Valley, Minn.

Preventing Stream Erosion

Along many streams it is necessary to hold the bank back in some efficient and cheap manner, otherwise the ground will gradually slump down into the stream, due to the washing away of the banks. An excellent method of preventing this is shown in the illustration.

Method of Building an Inexpensive Wall to Prevent Erosion of Streams Having Low Banks

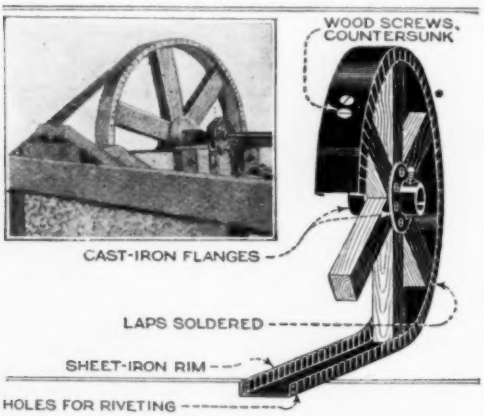
A woven-wire fence is erected where the new water edge is to be made, the fence posts being driven into the bed of the stream. Brush and saplings are then deposited as indicated, the branches pointing away from the water, and the butts inserted into the fencing. Earth is thrown on the brush to make the wall solid, and in a short time the new bank is knit together by marsh grasses and rushes.

Removing Dust from Batch Hopper

During the construction of a large power house, the concrete foreman constructed a square sheet-metal hood and chimney over his batch hopper, to remove the cement dust. A ½-in. pipe, connected to the compressed-air supply, was arranged so that it pointed up the center of the hood, and, when the air was turned on, a strong suction was created in the chimney, which caused the dust to be drawn up. The expense of this attachment was about $10, which was more than repaid by the cleanliness of the mixing room and the increased efficiency of the men.—Aaron Evans, Rockport, Wash.

Large Homemade Pulleys

Most mechanics in out-of-the-way places find that when they need a pulley,



Large Pulleys That Are Light but Rigid can Readily be Made in the Out-of-the-Way Workshop

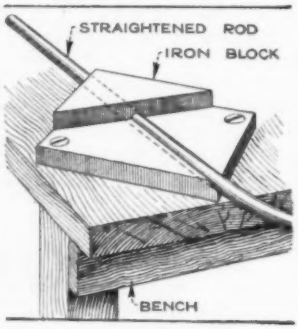
they cannot wait to have it cast, or until one can be delivered, but must have it at once. One resourceful mechanic constructs his own pulleys, when necessary, from wood and sheet metal, as shown in the illustration.

Two cast-iron flanges, specially made for this purpose, and a number of which are kept on hand, form the hub of the pulley, wooden spokes being bolted between them, and a sheet-iron rim of sufficient thickness provided on the outside. The flanges are fitted with setscrews to lock the pulley to the shaft. The spokes are beveled at the inner ends to fit together properly at the hub, and are rounded at the other end to conform to the curvature of the rim. The rim is made of a strip of sheet iron, the length being equal to the circumference of the pulley, plus 2 in. for the lap. Cuts are made along the edges by means of a hacksaw, and the strip is bent along the cuts as indicated. If the sheet metal is light, the pieces cut should be made to overlap each other when the strip is bent around the spokes, but if it is heavy, the cuts should be V-shaped, and of such size that their edges will fit closely together when bent. Solder is then run over the flange to fill the openings between the laps, making the rim rigid. If this is done neatly, and the rim given a coat of paint, the cuts cannot be seen. The ends of the rim overlap about an inch, and are riveted together. The rim is attached to the spokes by means of flat-headed wood screws, the holes being countersunk in the rim.

Most of the pulleys made in this manner have been about 2 ft. in diameter, with a 3-in. face, and for these 6-in. flanges, 2 by 3-in. spokes, and 22-gauge rims have been used. Because of their lightness and rigidity, these pulleys are much preferable to those made of cast iron or wood for slow speeds, especially when they are very large and are to be used on a light shaft.—Jonas Byberg, Silverton, Ore.

Bench Block for Straightening Rods

For straightening brass or copper rods, the bench block shown in the drawing will give excellent results. This device was used for straightening a number of ½-in. brass rods that had previously been used on tank work and were bent to a semicircular shape. It is made from a square block of steel, drilled diagonally, the hole being made a trifle larger than the diameter of the rods, and part of the block is cut away to half its thickness as shown. Holes are drilled in opposite corners for screws to hold the block to the bench. The bent rods are inserted in the hole as far as possible, then tapped down with a lead hammer and pushed through farther, until the rod passes through the hole.



Before this form of block was made, an ordinary flat block was used, but too much time was required to get the rods straight, as they warped in different directions when struck with a hammer, and it was necessary to go over each one several times. In the case of the block shown, however, the straightened part of the rod remains straight, as it is supported in the hole, and therefore it will be quite straight after it has passed through.—Harry Moore, Montreal, Can.

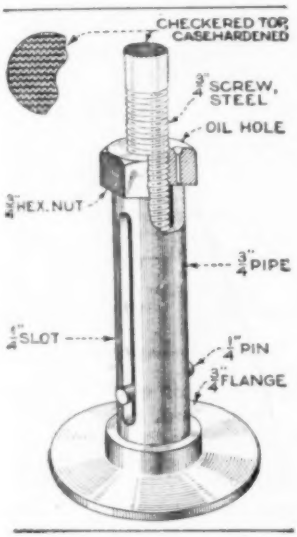
Satin Finish for Goldplated Work

To satin-finish gold, the articles must first be scratch-brushed with a revolving brush made of fine steel wire, the brush being driven at high speed. The brush and work are kept wet with bran water.

which is made by immersing in a gallon of boiling water a bag containing ½ lb. of bran; the bag must be well squeezed to be sure that the water is made "strong." The water is placed in a drip can suspended above the wheel, and a tin or cardboard guard is mounted above the wheel to prevent splashing. After scratch-brushing, the work will show a satin or dulled finish; it is then dipped in hot ammonia water, after which it is plated, using a rather weak current. Bicarbonate of soda and water is afterward used, on a handbrush, to clear the color of the work, which is apt to become rather foggy in the plating bath.

Homemade Jack for Erectors

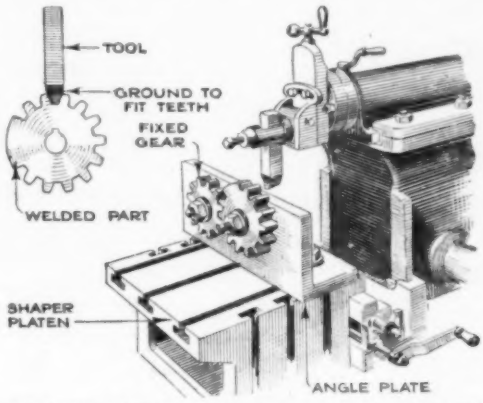
Machinery erectors and other machinists frequently require jacks smaller than the average, which are often too high to be used to advantage. A set of several small jacks will make erecting and assembling work easier, and will quickly pay for the time spent in making them.



The body of the jack shown in the drawing is made from ¾-in. extra-heavy pipe, such as used for hydraulic and high-pressure purposes, fitted at the bottom with a floor flange. The pipe is screwed into the flange flush with its lower face, so as to make a firm and continuous supporting surface. The elevating screw is made from ¾-in. round steel, threaded to within an inch of the head, which is checkered and casehardened to give a good non-slipping surface; the checkering can be done before casehardening by making deep cuts at right angles to each other with a three-cornered file. The screw is drilled and fitted with a ¼-in. pin, which slides in a slot cut in opposite sides of the pipe and prevents the screw from turning. A good casehardened hexagon nut is used to raise and lower the jack.

Cutting Gear Teeth on the Shaper

Gears that had a number of broken teeth filled in by welding were machined



Machining New Teeth in a Damaged Gear Repaired by Welding

on a shaper by means of the method shown in the drawing.

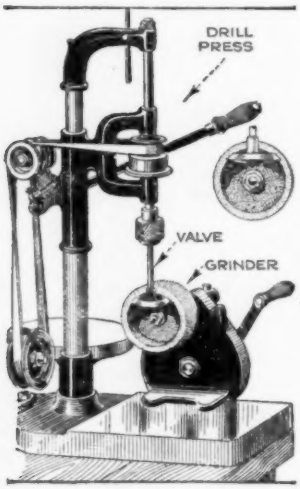
An angle plate was set up on the table of the machine, and a cutting tool was made, using an unbroken section of the gear as a template. The welded gear was placed against the angle plate and secured by a center bolt. A pinion was then bolted to the plate, so as to mesh with the unbroken teeth of the gear to be machined, with one of the good tooth spaces of the gear at the top. The gear was then brought up to the tool to locate the correct position of the shaper table. The welded section was now set under the tool and the cutting commenced, using only the vertical feed. The small pinion meshing with the larger gear was bolted solidly to the plate and was not disturbed until the work was done. As each tooth was cut, the work was turned by detaching it and turning it one tooth, so that a fresh surface of the new metal was brought in front of the cutting tool.

Melting Sulphur

Sulphur is often used to anchor bolts in cement or stone floors, but as it catches fire so easily when melted over an open flame, its use is somewhat inconvenient. This difficulty can, however, be avoided by first melting some lead, and then partly immersing the sulphur vessel in the molten lead. The sulphur will be melted in a short time, and there it will not catch fire, unless the temperature of the lead is allowed to exceed 625° Fahrenheit.

Facing Valves on Drill Press

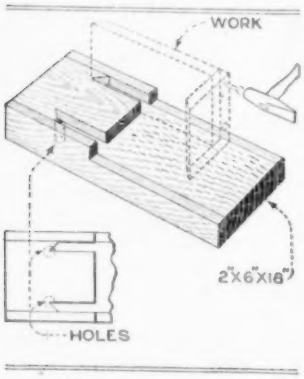
A novel method of refacing valves is shown in the illustration, a drill press and a hand grinder being used to do the work. A cupped emery wheel is fitted on the grinder, and the valve face is ground with the inner surface. This makes the face round, which, by many mechanics, is considered superior to a flat face, as it seats more readily and uniformly, and the smaller contact surface removes all carbon particles that become lodged on the seat.



The grinder is revolved with one hand while the drill-press spindle is lifted to bring the valve face in contact with the inside surface of the emery wheel. In grinding, only the smallest possible amount of metal is removed from the valve, and therefore the valve must not be held on the wheel for any considerable length of time.

Miter Nailing "Jack"

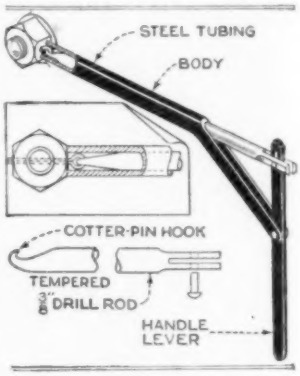
The miter nailing "jack" shown in the illustration is used for holding the mitered end of a piece of wood while the other end is being nailed as indicated, the object of the jack being to avoid bruising the beveled edge.



The base of the fixture is made of 2 by 6-in. wood, about 18 in. long. A piece of ⅞-in. wood is then cut with recesses for the beveled edge of the work, and this piece is nailed solidly to the base near one end, as shown. Strips are then nailed to the sides to complete the slots in which the mitered pieces are placed while nailing. Small holes, drilled through the base at the points of the slots, prevent the accumulation of sawdust and dirt in the points. The dotted lines show the position of the work when nailing.—F. M. Arthur, Bethune, S. C.

Long-Range Cotter-Pin Puller

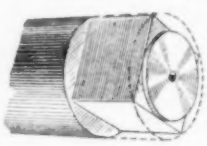
The cotter-pin puller shown in the illustration was devised by an automobile mechanic, and has been found to be of considerable assistance in removing cotter pins from places where it is difficult or impossible to use pliers or other tools. This tool can be used without the preliminary work of straightening the ends of the cotter pins, and also without the danger of scratching and bruising the hands.

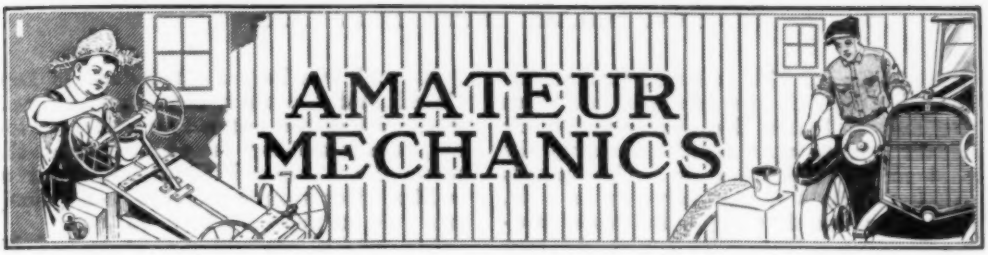


The body of the tool consists of a length of steel tubing of about ⅜-in. inside diameter. A ⅜-in. steel rod that slides freely inside of the tubing is filed or forged to a hook shape at one end, as indicated, and the other end is slotted and drilled for a small pin. One end of the tubing is cut and bent to form a support for a handle lever, which is pinned loosely to the end of the rod. The lever is also pivoted on the support extending from the tubing. In use, the body of the tool is held against the side of the nut while the rod pulls the cotter pin, the handle providing a good leverage.

Locating Squares on Shaft Ends

When cutting a square on the end of a shaft, take a square-nose tool and cut down a short length on the shaft end, in the lathe, until its diameter is equal to a side of the square. This enables the milling cutter or shaper tool to be fed down to the correct depth at once, without further measuring.



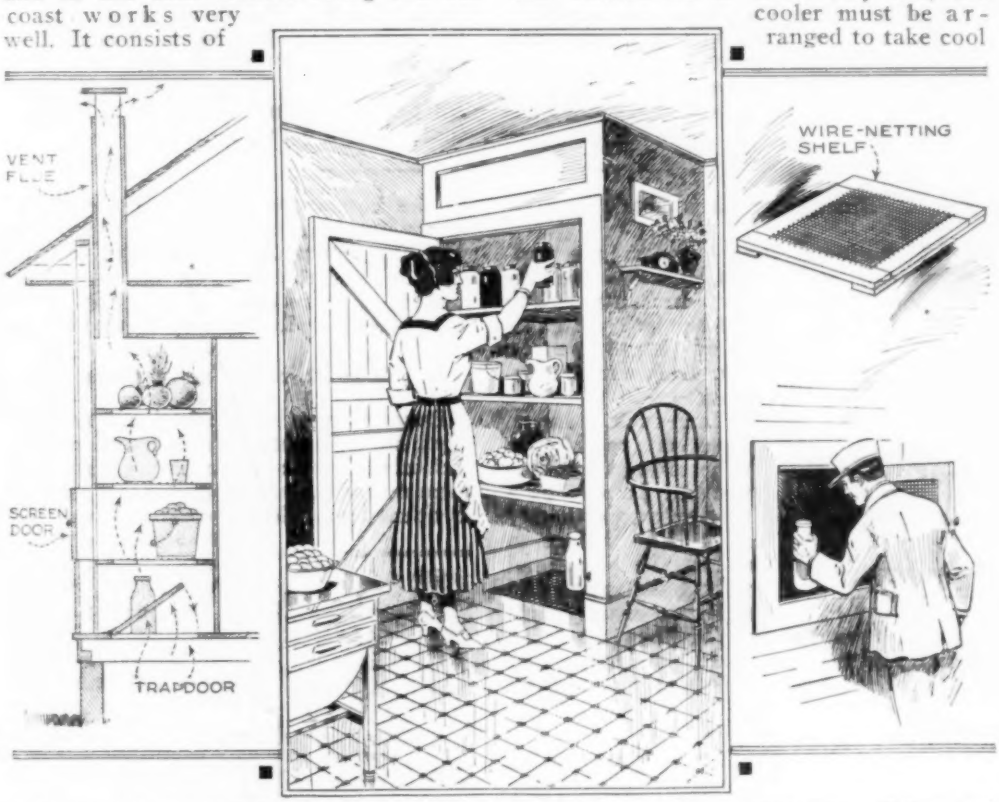


The "California Cooler"

BY W. DRAPER BRINCKLOE

THE "California cooler" is well known on the Pacific coast, and should be better known elsewhere in the country. It is used to keep vegetables and other perishable foodstuffs fresh and sweet, and in the cool climate along the sea coast works very well. It consists of nothing more than a simple closet, fitted with screen-wire shelves, with a small screened opening in the house wall, near the bottom, and another at the top. Fresh air enters the closet through the lower opening, and passes out of the upper one; the constant current of air is supposed to keep the food fresh, and, as a matter of fact, does so quite successfully.

For use farther east, however, this simple construction must be modified; as the outside air is often very hot, the cooler must be arranged to take cool air from the cellar, and to make it pass through fairly rapidly.



Left: Cross Section of California Cooler, Showing Arrangement of Trap and Screen Doors, Shelves, and Vent. Right: Detail of Shelf, and Appearance of Screen Door and Casing

A closet, of matched boards and of any size convenient, is built in one corner of the kitchen, on an outside wall. From the top, a sheet-metal or wooden flue is run above the roof, as shown in the left-

hand drawing. This is better than merely cutting a hole in the side wall, as, when the flue is heated by the sun, the air within it rises more rapidly, drawing the cool air in at the bottom. The vent is usually made 4 in. in diameter or 4 in. square; in the drawing, it is shown passing through a low attic, but in my own bungalow it runs up through a second-story room, behind a wallboard partition.

Near the bottom of the closet, an opening, about 8 in. wide and 12 in. high, or any other convenient size, is cut through the wall. This is cased in, and a small screen door fitted in place with spring hinges. In the bottom of the closet, an opening is cut through the floor, and fitted with a small trapdoor, about 12 in. square. The trapdoor opening, as well as the opening in the vent, should be covered with fly-screen wire.

The shelves are made of heavy galvanized cellar-window wire netting, tacked to 1 by 2-in. wooden frames, and resting on cleats screwed to the inside of the closet.

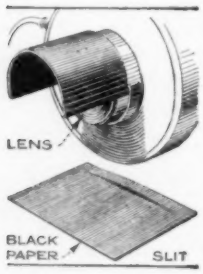
In cool weather, the trapdoor is kept closed, and the air taken from the outside. When the outside air becomes too hot, the trapdoor is opened, and the screen-door frame filled with a piece of wallboard or thin wood, cut to fit nicely and held in place by turn buttons.

The cold closet will not do away with the refrigerator by any means, but I have found that for a large part of the year it enables one to get along without ice very well. If milk bottles are wrapped in a wet cloth and set in the cooler, the current of air causes rapid evaporation and keeps them quite cold. Fresh meats are put in closed kettles, and the kettles wrapped in wet cloths; fruits and vegetables do not require this, as the cellar air keeps them cool enough.

Milk and grocery deliveries can be made through the outer door, and for the milk especially this is a decided advantage, as it is placed in a cool place at once, not left in the hot sun as usual. All told, the constructor of a California cooler will not regret it.

Emergency Lens Shade

All motion-picture cameras are provided with lens shades, which is the reason that the operators can obtain such effective scenes "shot" against the sun. Amateur photographers will profit by using such a shade. One can easily be made from a card or piece of paper of a dark color, preferably black. Cut a piece to suitable size and make a slit in the end equal to exactly half of the circumference of the lens tube. Open the slit and slide the shade over the lens as shown. To cover the entire lens, use two cards.

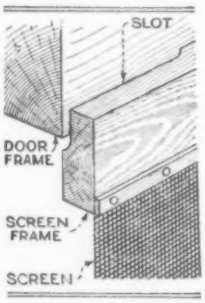


Bucket Used as Heater

During cool weather in spring and fall, when it is not necessary to use a furnace, but some heat is necessary to take the "chill" from the room, oil and gas cookstoves are frequently used. Although these provide considerable heat, it does not radiate properly, but rises to the top of the room. This difficulty can be avoided by placing an ordinary metal bucket, with holes punched in the bottom to permit air circulation, in an inverted position over the burner. The heat given off by the stove will then radiate from the sides as well as the top, causing a more even distribution of the warmth.—Joe H. Hudner, Bautista, Calif.

Fly Exit on Screen Door

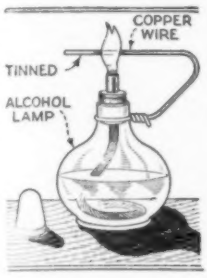
Despite care in keeping screen doors shut, flies will gain entrance, and will collect on the inside of the screen where they have no means of escaping until the door is opened and they are driven out.



If a slot is cut or planed along a short length of the top edge of the screen-door frame, as shown in the illustration, the flies, which constantly crawl from the bottom to the top of the door, will be attracted by the strip of light and will crawl through the slot to the outside, but as the inside of the slot is not so well lighted, they will not return. It is still better, if possible, to cut a few slots where the screen joins the frame, which can be accomplished with a little more trouble. The planed surface is then painted a dark color.—Harold E. Benson, Boulder, Colo.

Soldering with Alcohol Lamp

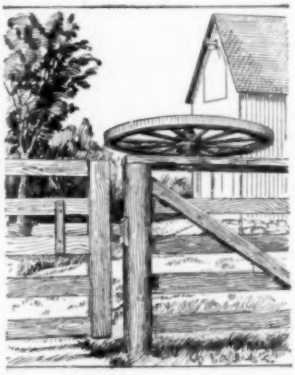
A very convenient method of soldering the wire connections on radio sets, or on any other delicate work, is to use a piece of copper wire heated by the flame of a small alcohol lamp. The lamp can be purchased for about 40 cents at any physicians' or dentists' supply house.



The length of copper wire, which should be No. 14 gauge, is thoroughly cleaned, twisted around the neck of the lamp with a pair of pliers, and bent to pass through the upper part of the flame, leaving about ¾-in. of the end projecting beyond the flame. This end is tinned in the usual way, and used as the soldering bit. Experiments will determine how far the tip must extend from the flame to obtain the best results. The device insures a hot point of constant temperature, and because of its size, it is much more efficient than a soldering iron for small work.

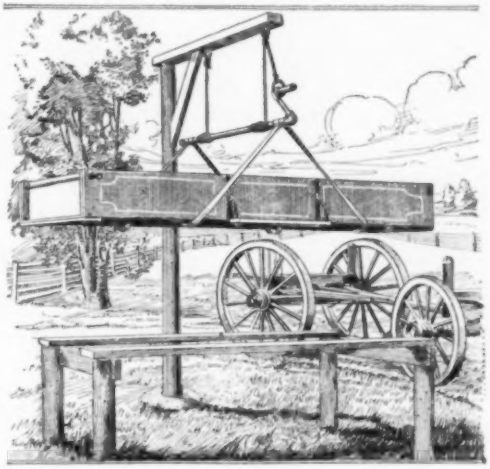
Saving the Gatepost

Careless drivers often neglect to allow sufficient clearance between the wagon and the gatepost when driving in a large load, and as a result the post is often struck and loosened, or it may even be broken. To prevent this, a farmer mounted an old wagon wheel on a 2 by 4-in. timber and spiked it on the top of the fence post, so that the tire projected about 3 in. beyond the post, as shown. The wheel was bolted to the timber, a thimble from an old wagon axle being used for the wheel to turn on, and a large washer and nut on the upper end prevented the wheel from being lifted up. When a load passes through the gate too close to the post, it strikes the wheel, and the wheel keeps it clear of the post.



Easily Made Wagon-Box Derrick

On the average farm it is seldom that more than one set of wagon trucks is kept for the different boxes and racks, and this naturally necessitates frequent changes to meet the seasonal requirements. The task of lifting the boxes is usually beyond the strength of one man without some mechanical assistance. For this reason the revolving derrick shown in the illustration was designed. With it one man or boy can easily remove a box or rack from the truck and place another in position.



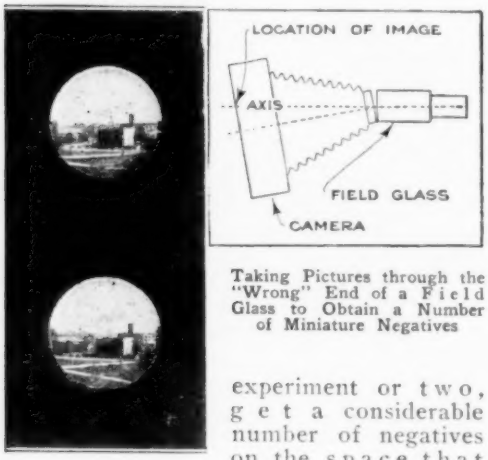
Simple Derrick Used for Hoisting Wagon Boxes and Racks: It can Easily be Operated by One Man

The standard of the derrick is a 6-ft. oak post, set in a cement base; the post fits loosely in the base so that it can be easily turned, the socket being filled with hard grease to facilitate swinging. A 6-ft. arm projects at the top and is supported by a stout brace. Two strong ropes are attached to the arm with eyebolts, as shown, and a windlass, made of 1¼-in. pipe, is suspended from the ropes, the ends of the ropes being securely attached to holes drilled in the windlass. The hooks are made of heavy tire iron, bent and sharpened at the lower ends to hook under the box, and with eyes forged in the upper ends to hang on the pipe. A short length of rope with an iron ring is tied to one of the eyebolts, and is used to hold the pipe crank, to prevent it from unwinding.

¶A waterproof glue is made by dissolving gelatin in hot water, to the consistency of thick cream, and adding a tablespoonful of acetic acid to each pint.

Miniature Photography

There are many cases where miniature photographs are better than none at all, and if the photographer is running short of films and is carrying a pair of field glasses along with him, he can, after an experiment or two, get a considerable number of negatives on the space that would ordinarily be a single 3¼ by 5½-in., or similar, negative.



Taking Pictures through the "Wrong" End of a Field Glass to Obtain a Number of Miniature Negatives

First focus the field glasses on a distant object in such a manner that the image seen seems to be at a distance. This is termed "focusing for parallel rays," and is most easily done by looking at the distant object with the unaided right eye, while at the same time looking with the left eye through one barrel of the glass, which is also directed at the distant object. Focus the glass until the left eye sees the image of the object just as distinctly as the right eye sees the object directly. This focus may be marked once for all by making a scratch on the draw tube of the glass to mark the position.

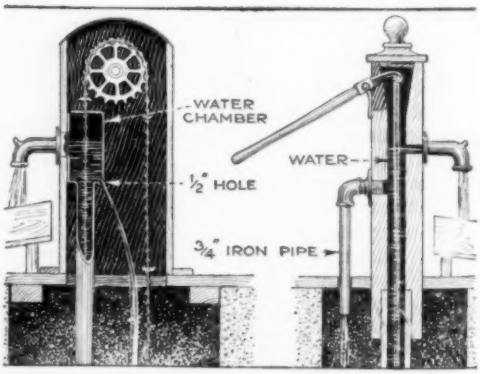
In practice, the focusing device of the camera is set for 100 ft., and the draw tube of the field glass is set at the scratch. The objective, or large lens, of the field glass is held firmly, in proper alinement, against the lens or lens mounting of the camera, with the small end of the field glass directed toward the view to be photographed. The exposure—time or snap—is made in the usual manner. Upon development the result will be a miniature photograph of a size proportional to the power of the field glass. All the light entering the camera will fall upon a small circular area of the plate or film, on the axis of the lens system, the rest of the film being untouched by light. This fact makes it possible, after an exposure, to turn the film forward by an amount equal to the diameter of the miniature negative and then make another exposure for a new picture.

The illustration shows how two such exposures were made using a film shift of 2 in., which was larger than necessary. In the case of this particular camera (postcard size), it is quite possible to take nine of these miniature photos on the 5½-in. strip of film normally devoted to one photograph. A little dexterity in holding the axis of the camera lens system at a slight angle to the axis of the field glass, as shown in the diagram drawing, will enable one to take three of the miniature negatives without shifting the film at all, one where the axis of the camera lens system strikes the film, and one on each side of this spot. This scheme may be followed for each shift of the film so that upon development one has three rows of miniatures extending from end to end of the film, resulting in a possible 150 exposures on an ordinary six-exposure film.

Care should be taken, however, not to tilt the glass much; a slight movement only is required, and too much will admit light between field glass and lens, fogging the film.

Aerating Well and Cistern Water

The water in cisterns and slow-running wells is apt to become more or less stagnant. This can be remedied by aerating a part of the water in the manner shown in the illustration.



Simple, but Effective Method of Aerating Well and Cistern Water That Tends to Become Stagnant

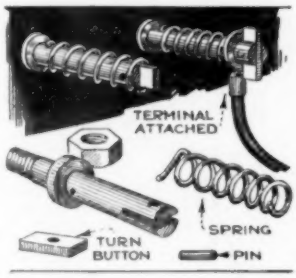
In the case of a chain pump, a ½-in. hole is punched in the bottom of the water chamber toward the rear, as indicated, so that part of the water will

escape through it and fall back into the cistern. While falling, the water is broken into drops, and these absorb some of the oxygen of the air, which purifies the water and improves its taste.

A similar method can be used on an ordinary plunger pump, by drilling a hole about 4 in. below the level of the spout and screwing a ¾-in. nipple into it. An elbow and a length of ¾-in. pipe are fitted onto this nipple, so that part of the water will be returned to the well.

Quickly Detachable Binding Posts

On electric switchboards and panels where wires must be changed frequently, quickly detachable binding posts of the kind illustrated are much better than the ordinary kind, on which the nuts must be screwed down so tightly, to prevent them from being jarred off by vibration, that a wrench must be applied to loosen them, which, of course, consumes considerable time.



The binding post shown consists of a short, shouldered copper rod, threaded at one end and slotted at the other. The threaded end is pushed through the hole in the panel, and a nut is screwed on from the opposite side. A washer is then slipped on from the slotted end and also a coil spring. The inner end of the spring is pushed through a small hole, drilled through the post near the shoulder, as indicated. A brass turn button, which must not be wider than the diameter of the post, is riveted loosely in the slot, so that it can be turned around to either of the two positions shown in the upper details. It is then an easy matter to attach or remove the terminal of a conductor by turning the button parallel to the post. The coil spring keeps the lug tight against the button, assuring good contact, and as it can be compressed considerably, several conductors can be attached to the same post.

¶To freshen the appearance of the leather chair seats, bags, etc., that are shabby from wear, rub them with the well-beaten white of an egg.

Serviceable Camp Stove

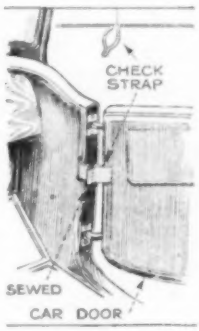
The drawing shows a serviceable camp stove that can be made at small expense, and that will give excellent service. It

A Serviceable Camp Stove, Made from a Steel Oil Drum, and Equipped with a Chimney

consists of a half of a metal oil drum, the head being used as the stove top. A square hole is cut in the side, near the bottom, to serve as a door through which the fuel is supplied. Just below the top, and opposite the fuel opening, a 4-in. hole is cut, and a sleeve is welded on so that a 4-in. elbow and a length of stovepipe can be added, thus providing a chimney. —C. K. Meller, Fargo, N. Dak.

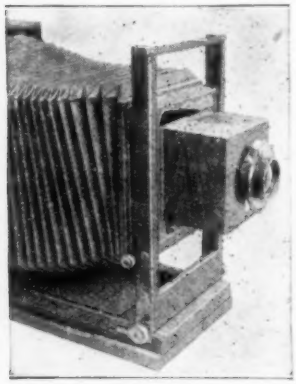
Improving Auto-Door Straps

The leather or fabric straps used on automobile doors, to prevent them from swinging open too far, sometimes cause trouble by bending the wrong way and jamming between the door and door frame, thus preventing the door from being closed, and also straining the hinges or loosening the screws. To overcome this, fold the strap and sew a hem at its center, as indicated in the illustration. This will cause the strap to be bowed outward, and prevent any further trouble. The hem should not be so large that it will shorten the strap much.



Photographing Objects Full Size

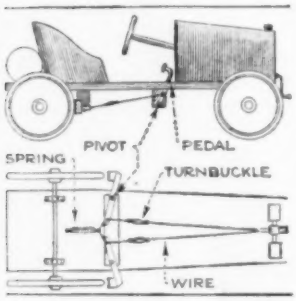
When it is desired to photograph small pictures or other objects in natural size, a short-focus lens can be used, but, as this gives greater distortion, it is much better to lengthen the bellows, which should be double the focal length of the lens used; that is, if a camera with a 7-in. lens is used, the bellows must be extended 14 inches in order to record the image in natural size.



The best method of increasing the focal length is to use a "cone," which is merely a tight-fitting box attached to the lens board, the lens being removed from the latter and fitted to the cone. The cone may also be fitted to the lens-board opening; if fitted to the lens board itself, the latter should have as large an opening as possible, so that the rays from the lens will not be cut off from the edges of the plate. If the cone is made sufficiently long, objects can even be photographed enlarged.—J. G. Pratt, Washington, D. C.

"Pushmobile" Brake

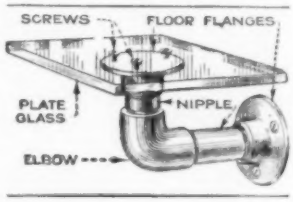
On a toy "pushmobile," the usual brake is a short lever, operated by hand and pressing on one wheel. An improvement upon this, consisting of two brake levers, with leather-faced blocks attached at the ends, and a pedal to operate them, is shown in the illustration. The brake levers pivot at their centers on a block attached to the underside of the car. A coil spring, connected to the inner ends of both levers, and attached to the underside of the car as shown, holds the outer ends away from the wheels. Two wires are attached to the brake beams at the same points as the coil spring, and are connected to the pedal. Turnbuckles are used on the wires to take up the wear of the brake surfaces. Pressure on the pedal applies the brakes to the wheels, and the coil spring disengages the blocks from the wheels the moment the pedal is released.—Harold E. Benson, Boulder, Colo.



Broken Windshields Make Plate-Glass Shelves

Pieces of plate glass, cut from broken windshields and mounted on brackets made of pipe and fittings, form attractive and sanitary shelves.

The glass is cut to the desired proportions and the edges are ground down. Three holes are drilled and countersunk in the glass to receive flat-head screws. The holes are drilled with an old three-cornered file, held in a breast drill, a mixture of emery and water being used as an abrasive. The holes are countersunk by means of a piece of steel ground to a 60° point, used with the same abrasive. It is surprising how quickly the drilling is accomplished. Care must, of course, be taken to feed the drill lightly, so as not to break the glass.



The bracket consists of two floor flanges, two short nipples and an elbow, all nickelplated and arranged as shown. The glass is screwed to one flange and the other flange is attached to the wall. When attaching the shelf to the bracket, a piece of thin felt should be used between the flange and the glass to absorb any uneven pressure of the screws.

Insulating Paint

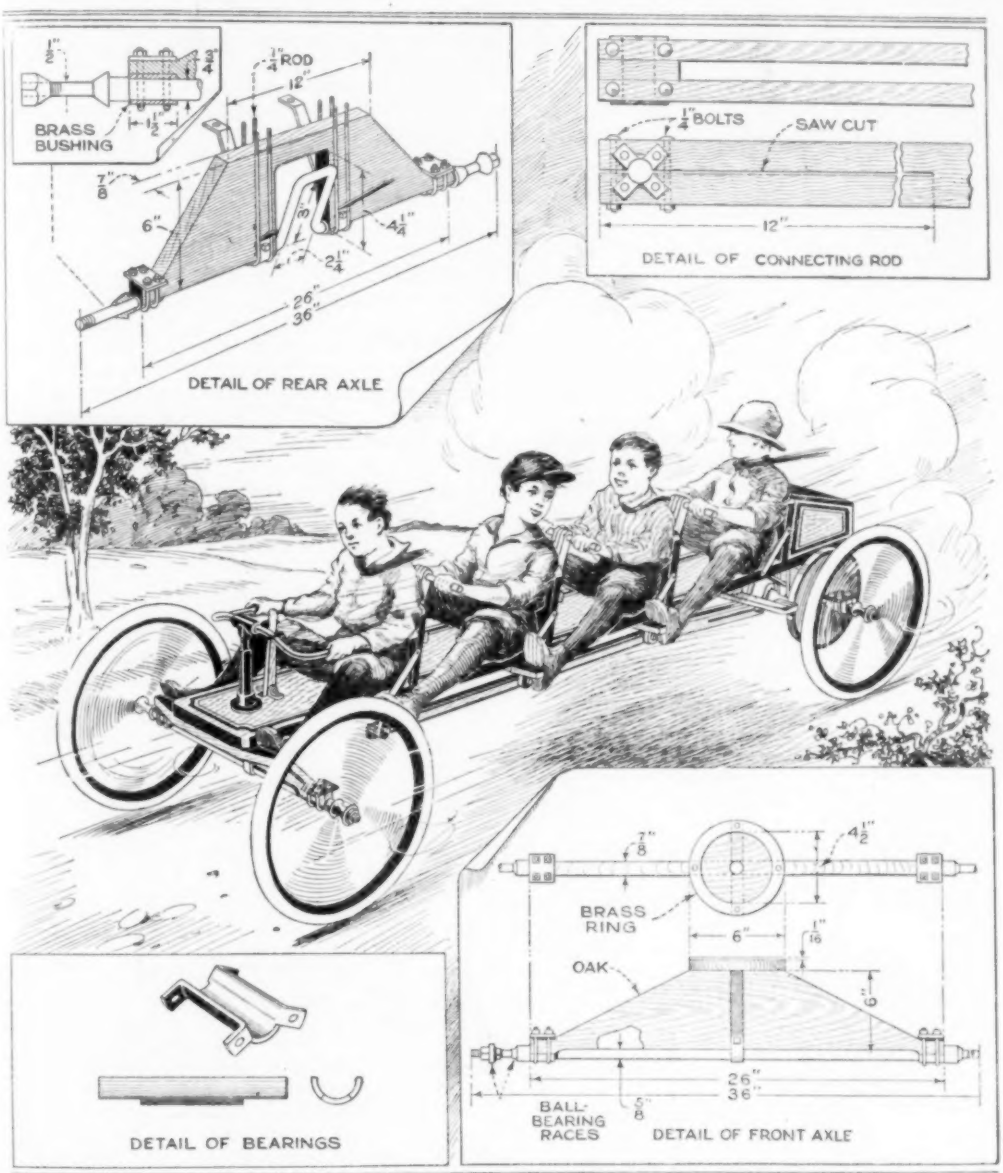
The sealing composition found on storage batteries makes a good insulating paint. If placed in a container and set in hot water, it will melt readily, and can then be applied with a paintbrush. Nearly every car owner has an old storage battery available for this purpose, but if not, the composition can be obtained from a battery-service station at small cost.—C. M. Wilcox, Torrington, Conn.

Building a Four-Passenger Hand Car

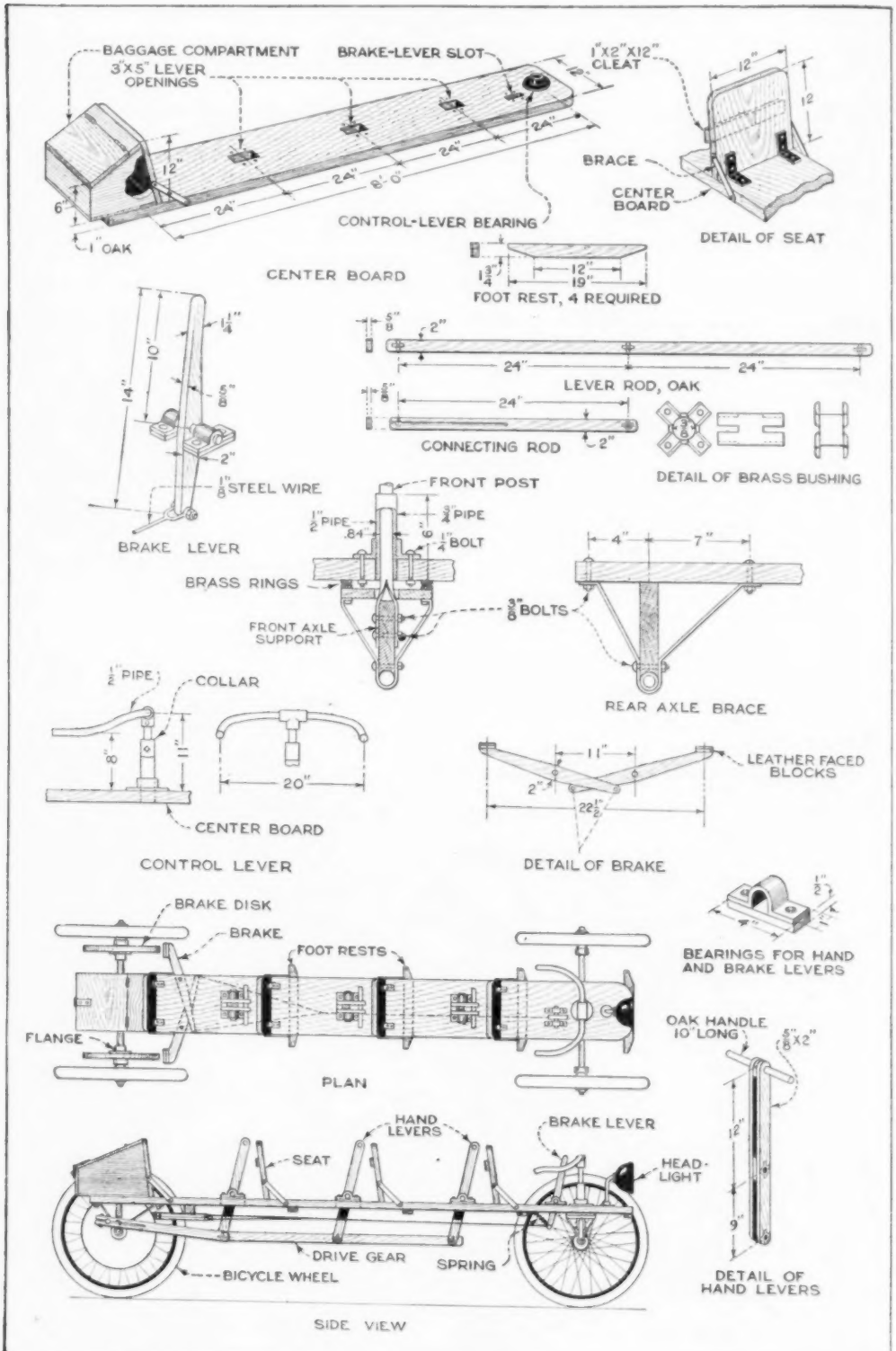
BY GEO. A. LUERS

THE four-passenger hand car described in this article will provide a great deal of healthy exercise and fun for the boys building it, and as most of the parts are made of wood, and are designed to be made with simple tools, a group of boys should not encounter any great difficulty in its construction.

The main member is a 12-in. oak plank, 1 in. thick. The exact length will depend to some extent upon how long it is desired to make the baggage compartment, and whether or not a headlight is desired, but the plank should not be less than 9 ft. long. Four 3 by 5-in. slots are cut along the center line of the plank, as shown in the detail of the board, and a hole to fit a ¾-in. pipe is bored at the



Full Details of Front and Rear Axles of Hand Car, Construction of Connecting Rod, Method of Making Bearings, and Perspective View of Car in Action



Top, Details of Main Board, Showing Baggage Compartment, Method of Bracing Seats, Sizes and Details of Lever and Connecting Rods and Their Bushings; Center, Cross Sections of Front and Rear Axles, and Details of Steering Post, Brake, and Lever Bearings; Below, Plan and Elevation of Car and Detail of Hand Levers

forward end, on the center line of the front axle. The axle centers are 8 ft. apart. The axles are made and attached first; it will probably be beyond the skill of the boy to make his own axles, but any blacksmith will turn them out if given a copy of the drawings. The rear axle is made from ¾-in. iron or steel, with a crank of 3-in. throw, 2¼ in. wide, forged in the center. It is turned down at the ends to ½ in. diameter, threaded, and fitted with the cone nuts that hold the wheels firmly in place. These nuts can be obtained from any cycle-supply house. The axle runs in bushings made of brass tubing, which are held to the wooden axle frame by U-bolts; these bolts are also best made by the blacksmith, as well as the flat-iron axle braces.

The front axle is made of ⅝-in. round steel, fitted in the same manner as the rear axle, but the front wheels can be allowed to run freely on the axle and provided with regular bicycle ball bearings, if desired; in this case, no brass bushings will be necessary, the axle being tightened firmly against the axle bracket. On top of the axle bracket or support, a 6-in. disk of wood is fastened, and a brass ring screwed to this, as indicated. This ring bears against a similar one screwed to the underside of the main board. This arrangement permits the front axle to be turned easily if the rings are kept oiled. The method of pivoting the front axle should be closely studied. A piece of ¾-in. pipe is threaded into a floor flange, which is bolted to the main board; the end of the pipe passes through the hole in the board. A ½-in. pipe passes through the ¾-in. pipe, and is split at the lower end, drilled, and bolted to the axle support; this forms the steering post, and is fitted with a collar that bears on the end of the ¾-in. pipe. The upper end of the post is fitted with a tee, and the handlebars, also of ½-in. pipe, are screwed into this after being bent to shape.

The drive arrangement is very simple, and all parts are made of oak, bushed with brass tubing for bearings. The pieces of tubing are sawed at the ends to form ears, as shown in the details, drilled, and the ears bent so that they can be bolted to the levers and connecting rod. The end of the long lever rod fits between the ends of the connecting rod, and is attached to it by a ⅜-in. pin, fitted with washers and cotter pins. The hand levers are connected to the lever rod in a similar manner.

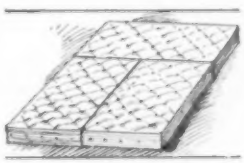
The construction of the brake is quite clearly shown in the drawings; as the brake is only used for emergency stops, all ordinary stopping being done by gradually slowing up on the hand levers, the brake disks may be omitted, and the brake levers allowed to act directly on the rear wheels. If brake disks are used, they should be turned and fitted with floor flanges, setscrewed to the shaft. This will necessitate lengthening the shaft by an amount equal to twice the thickness of one disk and flange. The rear-brake levers may be connected to the hand-brake lever by light rods, in which case a spring on the hand lever will release the brake, or by heavy steel wire, which will require a spring to be fitted to each rear-brake lever. The details of the bearings for the hand and brake levers are quite clearly shown; they are bolted to the main board as shown in the plan and side elevation.

Where greater speed is required than can be obtained with the direct drive, a gear drive can be fitted. A small pinion gear with about 15 teeth is keyed or pinned to the rear axle, the crank being omitted, and a gear with about 75 teeth is mounted in bearings in front of it so that the teeth will mesh. This gear should be provided with a ¾-in. pin, screwed into it 3 in. off center, and the connecting rod shortened and fitted on the pin. This will give a much greater speed than the direct drive.

The seats should be padded with burlap, stuffed with excelsior, and tacked to the board. For long trips, an acetylene or electric bicycle headlamp and an oil tail lamp should be carried, fastened to the main board by simple brackets.

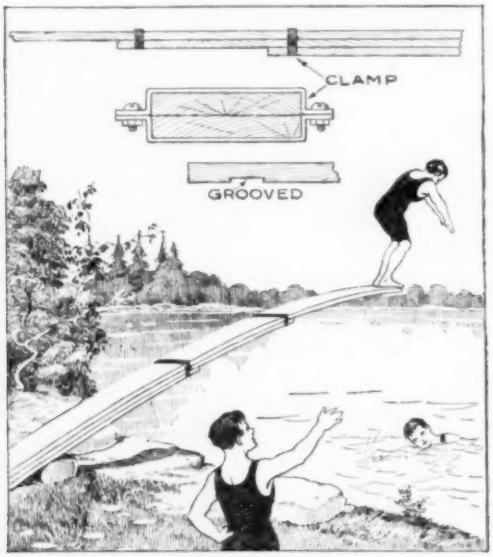
A Three-Piece Mattress

An ordinary mattress, cut into three equal pieces as shown in the drawing, and with the cut edges rebound with canvas and strong waxed thread, will be found of advantage in the sick room. Each piece is very easily handled, making the job of airing the bed much less laborious than with the full-size mattress. In addition to this, if the three pieces are interchanged often, the formation of lumps or hollows is prevented, as the weight is evenly distributed over the mattress, thus adding greatly to the comfort of the patient.



Making a Diving Springboard

A springboard for the swimming pool or the "old swimming hole" that actually has "spring" to it, is made by connecting



A Highly Satisfactory Diving Springboard Made by Bolting Three Planks Together

three boards somewhat after the manner in which the leaves of an automobile spring are assembled. In this way the spring obtained is much greater than that produced by any single board.

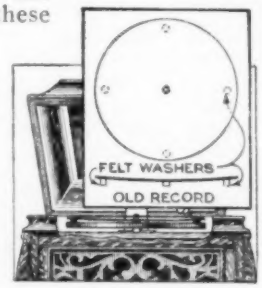
The top board is the longest, the next is about 3 ft. shorter, and the lowest one is about 4 ft. shorter than the second. The inner ends of the boards are set flush, and all three are fastened together throughout with screws, and at the points illustrated with iron clamps, which should be as unyielding as possible and made with sufficient space between the ends so that the boards can be clamped together tightly. The clamps are fitted into grooves cut on the underside of the bottom and middle boards, but the upper surface is not countersunk.—Robt. P. Lincoln, Minneapolis, Minn.

Turf-Cutting Tool

A single-bladed chopping knife can be made into a turf cutter for edging lawns around walks and flower beds. It is only necessary to remove the wooden handle with which the chopper is provided, and to drive the tang into a longer handle, which may be the handle from an old spade, or similar implement.

Using Badly Worn Phonograph Records

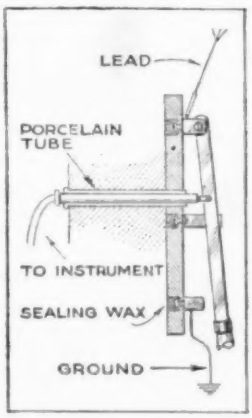
Some of the older phonograph records in every collection have become concave, and, from constant use, much of their original quality has been lost. One of these can be used to improve the playing of other records, however. To the convex side of the record, four felt or leather washers, just thick enough to keep the record out of contact with the turntable, are glued at equal distances. The record, so fitted, is then placed on the turntable, and the record to be played placed on top of it. This arrangement will slightly increase the volume of sound and also bring out the low tones more distinctly.—James E. Noble, Portsmouth, Ontario.



Plug-Type Aerial-Ground Switch

In order to use a radio set without running a permanent wire into the house from the aerial, an arrangement similar to the one shown in the drawing can be used. The lightning switch, which is of the single-pole, single-throw type, is opened or grounded as the plug is attached or removed. The switch is arranged on the outside of the building.

A hole is drilled through the window casing or wall, in line with the switch blade; this hole should be $^{13}/_{16}$ in. in diameter and a $^{3}/_{4}$-in. porcelain insulating tube inserted into it. A second tube, $^{3}/_{8}$ in. in diameter and 2 in. longer than the first, is fitted with a strong spring switch clip small enough to pass through the larger tube. The wire running from the clip through the smaller tube should be regular high-tension automobile-ignition cable, and a flexible cord, which reaches to the instruments, is soldered to this. It



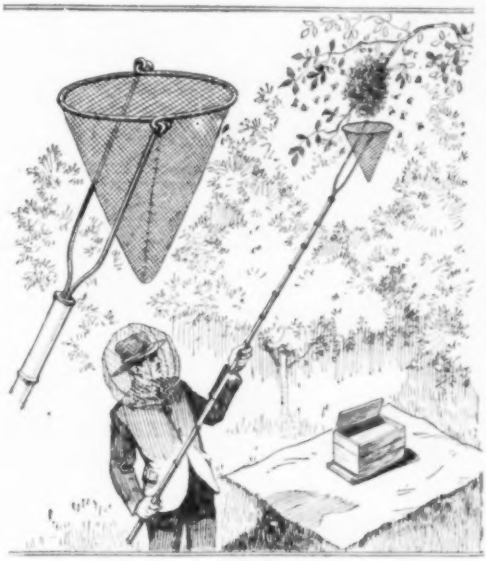
will be seen that when the inner tube is pushed through the outer one from the inside, the clip will make contact with the switch blade and at the same time push it out, breaking the ground connection. Upon pulling the plug in, the aerial is automatically grounded, but there is no metallic circuit into the house. A stop is provided to prevent the switch blade from being pushed out too far.—Edwin J. Bachman, Fullerton, Pa.

How to Make a Bed of Boughs

Thousands of men who camp in the woods sleep on twig beds, but it is safe to say that comparatively few know the proper way of making such a bed, so that it can be slept on comfortably. The mere cutting of a mass of branches and covering it with a blanket does not make for that enviable comfort so much talked of by old campers. A single thick branch will cause a sleepless night, not to mention what an armful unevenly distributed will do. There is only one way of making a twig bed that is worth while. The twigs selected should have stems not thicker than ¼ in., while smaller ones would be still better. Take a canvas or blanket, go to a tree, cut off a supply, and bring it in. Two men working at the job will soon have the bed ready for the night. The head of the bed should be higher than the foot, and the drawing shows how the twigs should be arranged at an angle, with the butts of the stems resting on the ground. In this manner the thick matting of the twig tops will keep the body from coming into contact with the sticks. When completed, stretch the covering blanket over the boughs. It should be mentioned that it is a good idea to fasten straps or cords at the four corners of the covering canvas or blanket; these can be tied to the tent pegs and drawn tight. Balsam-fir and cedar twigs are the best materials to use for the purpose; branches from most other trees are practically useless.

Basket on Pole Hives Bees Safely

A Wisconsin beekeeper, whose general farm work allows very little time for capturing the swarms that escape his



An Effective and Timesaving Device for Hiving a Swarm of Bees That have Escaped

apiary, has found the method illustrated both easy and quick. The device used for the work, he claims, has saved him many hours of labor as well as numerous painful stings.

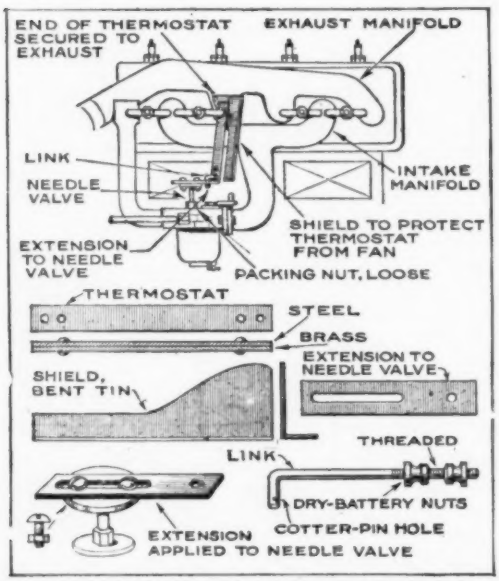
The device is simple to make. It consists of a circular rim and a supporting fork made of ¼-in. iron rod, and a cone-shaped screen-wire basket attached to the rim as shown. A stout cane fishpole is used for a handle, making the device light and easy to handle.

When the bees swarm, they usually alight in one of the trees of the orchard, and often at such a height that it is almost impossible to capture them. As soon as the swarm is located and fairly settled, the basket is raised under the swarm and shaken so that most of the bees will drop into it. Of course, many bees escape but they will return to the swarm and cluster on the outside of the basket. When all is quiet again, the basket is lowered in front of an empty hive and the bees are induced to enter their new home without much trouble. —G. E. Hendrickson, Argyle, Wis.

¶A wastebasket, fastened to the side of the desk chair, keeps the basket in one place and prevents upsetting.

Thermostat Control for Carburetor Needle Valve

By adding a simple thermostat, the needle valve of an automobile carburetor may be regulated automatically without attention on the part of the operator. The thermostat operates an extension on the needle valve, opening it slightly when the engine is cold and closing it when the engine warms up. The thermostat is made by riveting two pieces of dissimilar metals together, in this case strips of brass and steel. Metal, about ⅛ in. thick by ½ in. wide, is suggested. Owing to the fact that one of these metals expands considerably more than the other when heated, the thermostat will form the arc of a circle. By fastening one end of the thermostat securely in the manner shown, the opposite end is made to operate the carburetor.

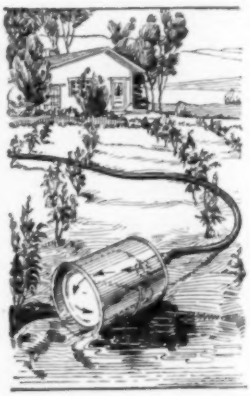


An Automatically Controlled Carburetor Needle Valve That Opens and Closes as the Engine Heats or Cools

On a common type of light car the upper end of the thermostat can be fastened underneath one of the manifold clips, and the lower end connected to the needle valve by an extension rod, fitting into an adjustable extension fastened to the top of the needle-valve wheel. By making the connecting link adjustable, various settings can be tried until the best effect is obtained. With the light-car engine, the needle valve should be opened a quarter turn for starting, and then turned back as the engine becomes warm; and approximately the same rule will apply to similar types of carburetors. With a heat-controlled regulator of this type, the thermostat must be shielded from the direct blast of the fan by means of a shield, cut from a piece of tin and fastened under the thermostat.

Breaking Force of Water from Hose

A great disadvantage in irrigating a garden with an ordinary hose is the washing away of the ditch or furrow banks, owing to the force of the water as it issues from the hose. This trouble can easily be overcome by taking two cans, one somewhat smaller than the other, and arranging them as shown in the illustration. A hole is made in the bottom of the larger one, to receive the end of the hose, and the small can is placed inside the larger, with its open end toward the hose. Both cans are fastened together by means of a wire, run through them as shown. In use, the arrangement is placed in a ditch, the hose is fastened in place, and the water is turned on. The water strikes the end of the small can, is deflected back, and issues in a slow, broad stream from the opening between the cans.



Nonslip Feet for the Tripod

Those who do much photographing in the home experience considerable trouble in keeping the tripod from slipping on linoleum or hardwood floors. By pushing an ordinary fuller ball from a faucet over the point on each leg of the tripod, no further trouble will be experienced, as the rubber balls will hold the tripod securely on any surface.—K. H. Hamilton, Chicago, Ill.

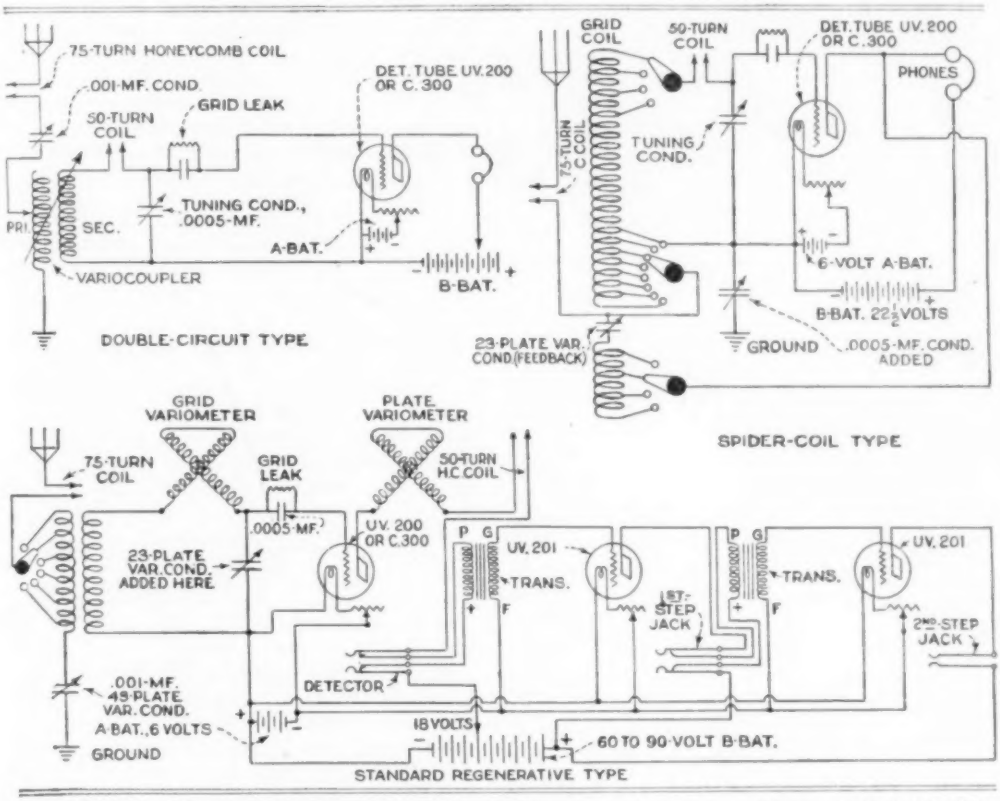
Increasing Wave Length of Receivers

BY F. L. BRITTIN

THE National Radio Conference recently held in Washington has made radical changes in the wave lengths on which the various broadcasting stations are permitted to operate, with a view to clearing the air for public benefit. The new wave lengths allotted to broadcasting stations that are now operating below 3,150 meters, can be divided into three classes, namely: Class A, which includes those stations not using more power than 500 watts and which are to operate on wave lengths between 288 and 300 meters; Class B, which includes stations using power from 500 to 1,000 watts, to use wave lengths from 300 to 545 meters, and Class C, which includes stations that are operating on a 360-meter wave length and that will be permitted to continue using this wave length.

On account of these new rules, many amateur radio fans are confronted with the problem of making the proper changes in their receiving instruments, to enable them to receive stations operating on wave lengths greater than those for which their sets were originally designed. Most receiving sets now in use were built to tune to wave lengths from 200 to 500 meters, when using the average type of aerial, and in these cases it is only necessary to make minor changes in order to enable the operator to tune to maximum signal strength.

If a very short aerial is used, an inductance is necessary in the aerial circuit, controlled by means of a variable condenser connected in series with the aerial. Honeycomb coils are excellent inductances to use for this purpose, as they are small, compact, and easy to install. Another method of adjusting the antenna circuit to longer wave lengths is to place a variable condenser across the tuning inductance. The condenser should have a capacity of .0005 mf., which is generally known as the 23-plate size, and be of the vernier type.



The Addition of Honeycomb Coils and Variable Condensers to the Common Types of Radio-Receiving Instruments Allows Them to be Tuned to the Longer Wave Lengths That are Now Used

On the double-circuit type of receiver, using a variocoupler, a 75-turn honeycomb coil is placed in the aerial circuit between the aerial and the primary of the variocoupler, and a 50-turn honeycomb coil is connected in the secondary circuit, this coil being placed in the lead running from the secondary tuning condenser to the secondary winding of the variocoupler, as shown in the upper left-hand diagram. A method of switching out this coil must, of course, be provided in order to permit tuning to the shorter wave lengths. In the case of a single-circuit receiver, using a tuning coil and a variable condenser in the aerial or ground circuit, a 75-turn honeycomb coil is placed in the aerial circuit.

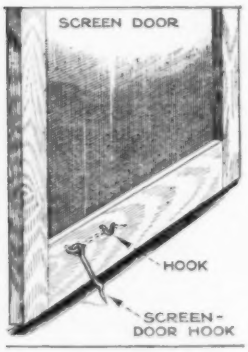
With a regenerative receiver of the spider-coil type, the wave length can be increased by placing a 75-turn coil in the aerial circuit between the aerial and the coil, and a 50-turn coil in the secondary or grid-coil circuit, between the switch and the variable tuning condenser, as shown in the upper right-hand diagram. A .0005-mf. variable condenser is also placed in the ground lead to assist in tuning.

In the case of a standard type of regenerative receiver, consisting of a variocoupler and two variometers, a 75-turn honeycomb coil is placed in series with the aerial circuit, and a 50-turn coil in series with the plate variometer; a 23-plate condenser is also connected across the grid variometer and the secondary winding of the variocoupler, as shown in the lower diagram.

The circuit diagrams show exactly where to connect the honeycomb coils and condensers. Switches must be provided for cutting out the coils when they are not required. These switches can be mounted on the panel in any convenient position. Single-coil mountings are now on the market, and they can be attached to either the front or rear of the panel.

Doorstop Made from Hook

It is frequently necessary, when sweeping, scrubbing, or moving pieces of furniture in and out of the house, to provide some means of holding the screen door open. A simple and effective stop can be made from a screen-door hook. The hook is straightened out as indicated and screwed into the lower part of the door, a screwhook being driven in near it, for the hook to rest in when not in use. When it is desired to hold the door open, the hook is lifted from its place with the toe, and allowed to drop down so that the point digs into the floor.

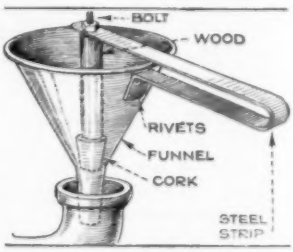


Blackening Metal Parts of Camera

Interior metal parts of cameras must be colored a dead black to prevent light reflections. Brass parts can be painted with a solution of copper nitrate, followed by an application of nitrate-of-silver solution, after which the metal is heated until the color is deep enough. Zinc is placed in a fixing solution of hyposulphite of soda and chrome alum, which will turn it a dark green. Both metals can be lacquered by heating and applying shellac or hard-drying varnish, if used on the outside of the camera.

Combined Oil Funnel and Container

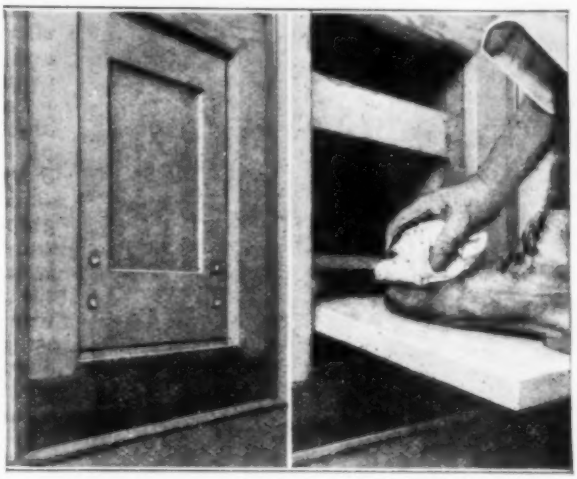
A combination funnel and container which is of considerable convenience, is shown in the illustration. Any ordinary metal funnel can be used for this purpose, providing it is large enough to hold about a quart of oil. A strip of flat spring steel is riveted to the side and bent over as indicated so that the loose end comes over the center of the funnel; a hole is drilled through this end. A short length of round wooden rod, and a cork that just fits into the wide part of the neck, are both drilled lengthwise to receive a long bolt, then attached to the end of the handle as shown. Pressure on the handle forces the cork into the neck of the funnel, closing it, and allowing the funnel to serve as a container or carrier for the oil. When the liquid is to be discharged, the pressure on the spring is released, and the cork is pulled out of the neck.



Handy "Built-In" Shoe-Polish Box

Convenience and usefulness are combined in the "built-in" shoe-polish box shown in the photograph. It provides space for keeping the polishes and brushes, and when opened, serves as a footrest as well. Being small in size, it can be installed in any suitable place in a wall, as it slips between the studs, which are usually spaced 16 in. apart.

Build the box of 1-in. stock, 12 by 18 in. inside measurements, gaining the top and bottom pieces into the jambs. The depth should be such that after the back, which is made of panel veneer or other suitable thin stock, is nailed on, the front of the frame will be flush with the plaster when the box is set in place. The shelves and partitions indicated in the photograph should be set back from the front edge of the frame ⅜ in. so as to form stops for the door, which measures 1⅛ by 12 by 18 in.



Convenient Box for Shoe Polish and Brushes: The Door Opens to Serve as a Footrest While Polishing

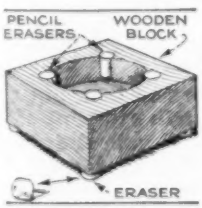
The door pivots on a piece of ½-in. gas pipe, 13¾ in. long. The ends are carried in holes bored in the side jambs, 2½ in. from the bottom and 1½ in. from the front. Ordinary pipe straps screwed to the inside of the door act as hinges. A stop must be so placed inside the frame that the door, when open, slopes forward at a convenient angle for the foot.

Case the box to match the trim of the room, bringing the inner edges of the casing flush with the inside of the box. It has been found that the most convenient height for the box is about 1 ft. from the floor, measuring from the bottom of the box. The edge of the lower casing will then bear against the top of the baseboard.

If the box is to be installed in a house already built, cut out the plaster and laths between two studs until the height of the opening is 20 in. Cut two lengths of 2 by 4-in. wood and nail these between the studs, above and below the opening, so that the casing nails may be driven into them.

Homemade Ink-Bottle Holder

A serviceable ink-bottle holder that can easily be made from a block of wood and some ordinary pencil erasers, is shown in the illustration. A block of ¾-in. wood, about 4 in. square, is obtained, and a circle, a trifle larger than the bottom of the ink bottle, is scribed on one side of the block, in the center. Then another circle, with a radius ⅛ in. larger and concentric with the first, is scribed on the block. The circles are divided into four equal parts by scribing diagonal lines from corner to corner of the block. At the points where the lines intersect the outer circle, punch marks are made, and holes, a trifle smaller in diameter than the rubber tips of pencils, are drilled with the punch marks as centers. The large hole for the ink bottle is then drilled to the desired depth.

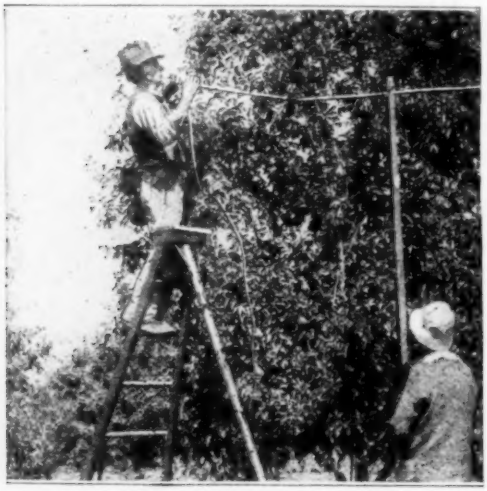


Pencil erasers are forced into the four holes drilled for them. As is apparent, they serve to hold bottles of slightly varying diameters snugly. Pieces of pencil erasers are attached to the underside of the holder with small brads to serve as feet and prevent marring of the finish of the desk or table. Two coats of black shellac give the holder a good finish.

¶To test turpentine, place a drop or two on a piece of white paper. If pure, no trace or stain will be left.

"Propping" Pear Trees with Twine

A successful California fruit grower has found ordinary binder twine a good substitute for the wooden props ordinarily used to support heavily loaded branches of pear trees. The twine is wound around the tree as if it were a huge bundle of grain. This is done after the fruit is well set on the trees, but before it is large enough to bend the limbs. The work of tying up the trees is conveniently done by two persons. One carries a ball of twine and a forked stick to hold the twine at any desired height while moving around the tree, and the other, mounted on a stepladder, ties up the branches. It is frequently necessary to wind the twine around the tree several times at different heights.—W. L. Salvage, Beaumont, Calif.



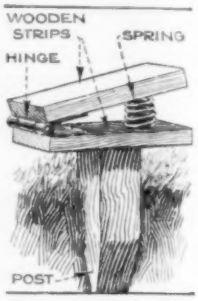
Binder Twine as a Substitute for Wooden Props Ordinarily Used to Support Fruit-Tree Limbs

Saving Radio Tubes

After completing a radio set and hooking up the batteries, it is highly advisable to apply a voltmeter to the filament terminals of the sockets before inserting the tubes, with the rheostats first off and then turned to operating position. If the voltmeter indicates more than the filament voltage of the tube, look over the wiring and see if the B-battery lines are connected across the filament lines, and make the proper changes. Under no conditions should the tubes be subjected to a higher voltage than that for which they are designed, as the filaments will be burned out very quickly.

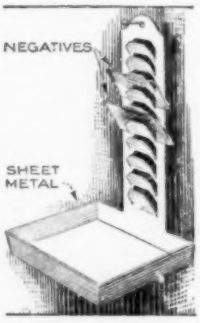
Stop for Garage Doors

The usual method of "propping" the garage doors to hold them open may be dispensed with by providing an automatic stop of the kind shown in the illustration. A short post is sharpened at one end and is driven into the ground near the open position of the door, and two short strips of wood, about 1 by 3 by 8 in. in dimensions, are hinged together at one end as shown. A coil spring is fastened between the strips to raise the free end of the upper strip, the ends of the spring being stapled down. The lower strip is nailed to the post so that the hinged end points toward the door when the latter is opening. When the door is swung open, the bottom strikes the inclined plane of the upper strip and, after depressing it, slips over the end; the spring then lifts the strip and prevents the door from closing. A stake should be placed beyond the stop to keep the door from swinging open too far. When driving the post into the ground, care should be taken that the post is sunk deeply enough into the ground so that the door will be sure to slip over the strips.



Convenient Drying Rack for Negatives

The drawing shows a convenient rack for drying negatives. It is made of sheet zinc or brass, and can be hung on the wall, or placed on the bench or table. It is made of sheet metal, cut to shape, with the wide end formed to make a shallow tray, while the long strip is bent at right angles to the tray. Cuts are made in the strip as indicated and the parts so formed bent out to an angle of about 45°. A small hole is drilled at the top of the rack so that it can be hung on the wall. Plates must be placed in the rack with the emulsion side up, or the film surface will be scratched, ruining the negative, and all sharp edges must be rounded off smooth.

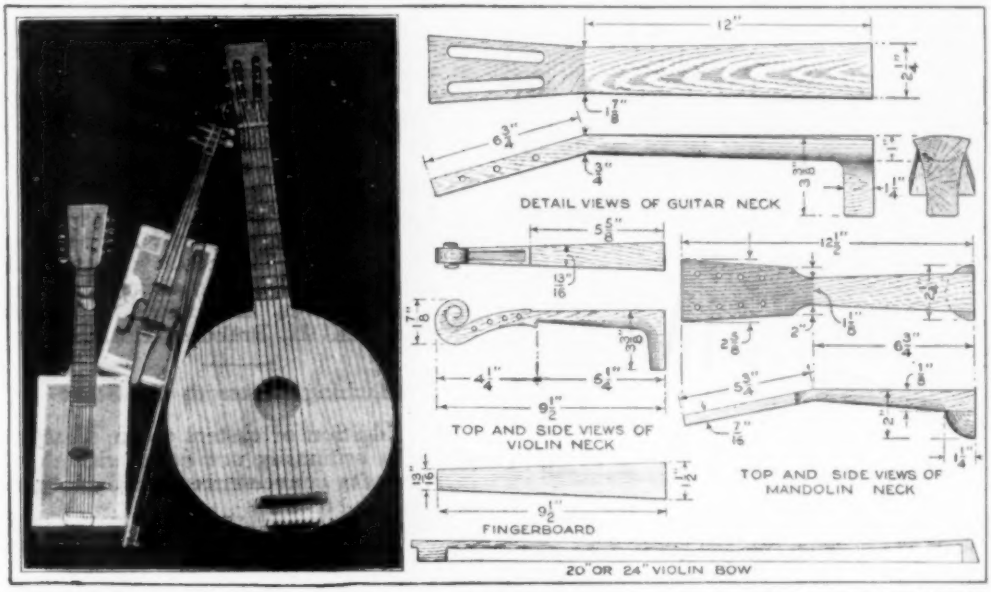


Musical Instruments from Cigar Boxes

BY W. F. CORD

CIGAR boxes, which may generally be obtained for the asking from any tobacconist—who will be glad to get rid of them—can be used to make very passable violins and mandolins. Of course, it is not expected that a "fiddle" of this variety would possess the tone of a Cremona or Stradivarius, but, in the hands of one knowing how to play such an instrument, very creditable results may be attained.

The drawing shows the dimensions and appearances of the various necks in case it is desired to make them at home. However, if the best results are desired, it is recommended that these, as well as the bridges, tailpieces, strings, and similar fittings, be purchased from a music-supply house. If made at home, poplar should be used.


12"
DETAIL VIEWS OF GUITAR NECK
TOP AND SIDE VIEWS OF VIOLIN NECK
TOP AND SIDE VIEWS OF MANDOLIN NECK
FINGERBOARD
20" OR 24" VIOLIN BOW

Violin, Mandolin, and Guitar That are Made from Cigar and Cheese Boxes by the Addition of Suitable Necks and Fittings: Anyone Who can Play a Standard Instrument of Either Kind can Produce Music from These

The cigar-box violin should be made from a box about 3 in. deep, 5 in. wide, and from 9½ to 13 in. long, according to the person for whom it is made. Let the lid form the back of the instrument, but do not nail it down until the work has been completed. Glue a block, ⅜ in. wide by 2½ in. long and the same depth as the box, in the end to which the neck is to be fastened, and a smaller block at the opposite end. Cut the F-shaped sound holes in the top and then drive in a few more nails around the edges of the box, to make it stronger. When the neck has been completed, drill two or three holes through the block and box into the neck for screws; then glue the neck in place, and screw it on tight. Next fasten the fingerboard in place, drill a hole in the rear end and rear block, and glue into it a small peg to hold the tailpiece. The bow is also made of poplar, and the hairs can be obtained from a long-tailed horse or bought from a music store; ordinary thread can even be used, where it is not possible to obtain horsehair, or to purchase a bow.

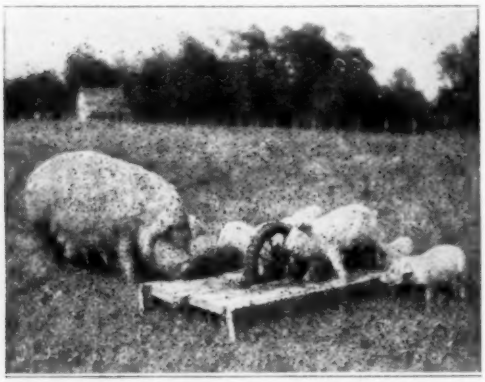
For the mandolin, a box about 5½ or 6 in. wide, 2¾ to 3¾ in. deep, and 9½ in. long, will be best. The lid, as in the violin, forms the back and is not fastened down until the remainder of the work is done. The sound hole, which is about at the center of the box, is 1¼ by 1¾ in. in size. Glue a piece of wood, ¼ by ⅝ in. in dimensions, across the box, midway between the sound hole and the end of the box, to keep the bridge and fingerboard from pressing in the top. A block, ⅜ in. wide by 3 in. long, and the same height as the box, is glued inside at the neck end. The neck is made as indicated in the drawing, and is attached to the box as described for the violin.

The guitar is made from part of a cheese box instead of a cigar box. A box

made from a single piece of wood, instead of one made up from three-ply veneer, should be selected. Cut the rim down to 3¼ in. in width, and attach the neck at the point where the ends meet, after fastening a ¾ by 3¼ by 3¼-in. block on the inside. The neck, when in place, must stand above the rim a sufficient distance so that, when the top is applied, the neck will be flush with the top. After the neck has been fitted, as described above, the top and bottom can be put on; these pieces may be sawed from pine, poplar, or almost any kind of lumber, about ⅛ in. thick. The sound hole is a little above the center and is 2¾ in. in diameter. The top is glued and nailed to the rim and is reinforced by three ¼ by ⅝-in. strips that are glued edgewise across the underside of the top to prevent it from being pressed in. It is also advisable to glue two or three such strips on the bottom before it is attached. A lug, 1¼ in. long by 1½ in. wide, is left on the bottom cover, and fastened to the underside of the neck.

Homemade Hog Oiler

An easily constructed hog oiler, made from a wheel taken from an old wheelbarrow, is shown in the photo. The



Effective Hog Oiler, Made from an Old Wheel Covered with Burlap Sacking

wheel, covered with burlap, is mounted in its original bearings on the wooden base that contains the oil trough. The wheel turns as the hogs rub against it, thus continually taking up a fresh supply of oil. This treatment keeps the hogs free from lice and other vermin.

Making Sparrows Useful

If a small quantity of cracked corn is thrown on the heads and under the stalks of cabbage plants, the sparrows will gather up the corn, and, while getting down through the leaves after the small grains, will also eat the cabbage worms.

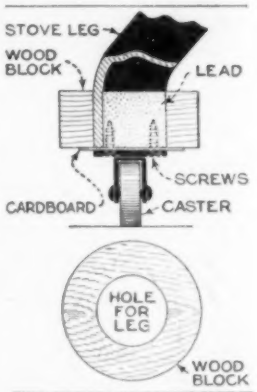
Some corn is first scattered near the patch to attract the birds, and the grain is then thrown in and around the head of the cabbage plants about every two days; if the patch is a large one, every three or four days will do. The sparrows will not eat the cabbage, but will get the green worms.—Joe Dunn, Meyerdale, Pa.

Vacuum Cleaner "Blows" Organ

In a church where an ordinary reed organ with pedal-operated bellows was used, it was desired to install an electric blower. As the reeds of such an organ are sounded by suction, the air being exhausted from the wind chest by the bellows, it was found that a common vacuum sweeper could easily be made to do the work. A small hole was cut in the wind chest, and the end of the vacuum-cleaner hose inserted, the connection being made air-tight. The cleaner itself was set in the basement where it could not be heard while running. The result was entirely satisfactory, the cleaner doing the work just as well as an expensive electric blower.—Phil H. Brehmer, Rutland, Vt.

Attaching Caster to Oil Stove

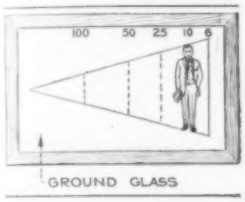
The addition of casters to an oil stove, which is ordinarily not fitted with them, increases its convenience considerably, as it can then be moved about more easily.



A piece of 1-in. hardwood is cut to a circular shape and a hole is drilled through it as shown, so that the leg of the oil stove fits in the hole snugly. The bottom of the hole is closed with a cardboard disk, a flat-top caster is placed in position underneath it, and the caster screws pushed up through the cardboard. Melted lead is poured into the hole in the block from above, and this, when cool, will hold the screws securely.

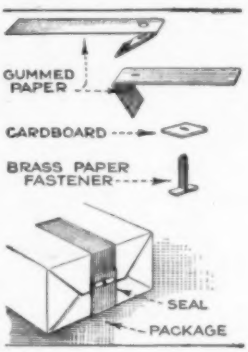
Using Camera Finder as Range Finder

Any small camera finder, having a ground glass, can be used as a range finder by marking two horizontally converging lines on the ground glass as shown in the illustration. Distances of 6, 10, 25, and 50 feet from the camera are marked off on the ground, and, with a person of average height standing at these points successively, his position is marked on the ground glass at the points where the images of head and feet touch the upper and lower lines. Vertical lines are drawn between the points thus located and the distances marked on. If the finder is too small for many figures, the lines marked can be the same as those on the focusing scale, and the numbers dispensed with. Thereafter, when making a snapshot, it is only necessary to find the line corresponding in height to the person to be photographed in order to know the correct distance to set the scale.



Package Fasteners

When it is necessary to send a package at unsealed-mail rates, and a supply of regular parcel-post package seals is not on hand, perfectly satisfactory ones can readily be made from two 4-in. strips of 1-in. gummed paper, such as is used for sealing packages. Fold over about ¾ in. at one end of each strip and insert a flat-headed brass paper fastener, as shown, in one of the strips, and a small piece of cardboard in the other. Then stick the ends down to hold the fastener and cardboard in position. Punch a hole or cut a slit through the piece of cardboard for the fastener to pass through, and then fasten the strips to the package as shown, so that it can be opened for inspection by the postal authorities.—Leighton Powell, San Francisco, Calif.



Temporary Wire Fences

The photograph shows the construction of a temporary fence for "hogging down" corn or other forage crops on a farm. Each stake is made from a length of pipe, which is flattened at one end so that it can be easily driven into the ground. A number of holes are drilled in the pipe, in pairs, at equal distances apart, and a small loop made of wire is inserted into each. The wire fence is then stretched in the usual way, and a long straight piece of heavy wire is slipped down through the small loops to hold the fence in place. With this arrangement the fence may be put up or taken down in a very short time.

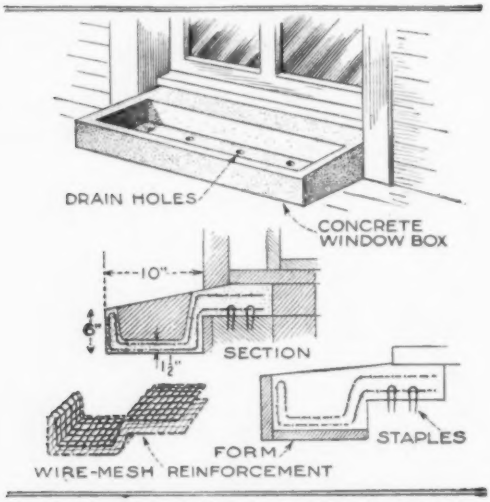
Temporary Wire Fence That can be Set Up or Taken Down in a Very Short Time

When Felloe Bolts Become Loose

Bolts that are used to hold demountable rims in place on the felloe have a tendency to loosen, partly from screwing them up tightly, and partly from running stresses. A simple repair is as follows: Remove the bolts, and plug the holes with wooden dowels, then drill new holes halfway between the old ones. The size of these holes should be such that the bolts must be driven in.

Combination Window Boxes and Sills in Concrete

When remodeling his building, an owner included the concrete combination window boxes and sills shown in the illustration, adding considerably to the appearance of the house, and insuring permanent sills. The construction is simple and durable, the concrete being reinforced with wire mesh, doubled as shown, and stapled to the plate under the sill. A wooden form was made, 6 in. deep at the front, 10 in. wide and as long as the window frame, lightly nailed in position, and the concrete, a mixture of 1 part cement to 2 parts sand, poured. The interior was cut out and troweled smooth while the concrete was still plastic, and ½-in. drain holes made through the bottom. The form was not removed until the concrete had set, and the sill was kept wet for a week, before any weight was placed on it.



Combination Window Boxes and Sill in Concrete That Is More Durable than the Wooden Sill

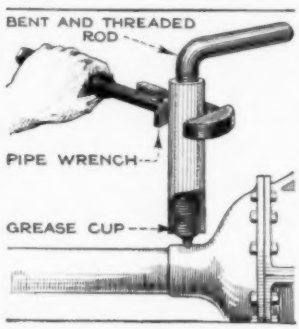
When the Crankcase Oil Runs Low

Owners of automobiles provided with the splash system of oiling will appreciate the kink given below, when a low supply of oil in the crankcase threatens to "freeze" the pistons and burn out the connecting-rod bearings.

Pour a quart or two of water into the crankcase. As oil is lighter than water, it will rise to the top, and will be splashed up by the crankshaft and connecting rods as usual. By doing this the car can be run to the nearest supply station, where the crankcase can be drained and refilled.

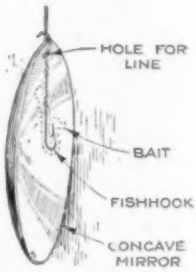
Special Wrench for Removing Grease Cups

The wrench illustrated was devised to remove grease cups of the screw-cap type, such as used on automobile axles, the threads on the outside of the cup preventing the use of a pipe wrench because of the damage to the thread, and the hexagons on the lower parts being usually so much worn or so placed, as not to allow a wrench to be used. The tool consists of two parts: a short length of pipe, tapped through its entire length with the same thread as the grease cup, and a rod, threaded to fit in the pipe, and bent as shown, to facilitate turning it. In use, the pipe is first screwed onto the grease cup, after which the rod is screwed down tightly against the cup, thus locking it securely in the pipe. A pipe wrench is then used in the manner indicated to unscrew the cup.



Mirror an Effective Lure for Fish

While the bait shown in the illustration makes use of a mirror, it is the greed of a fish that leads to its capture rather than its vanity, for, seeing the bait attractively reflected in the mirror as well as the image of what seems to be another fish, it becomes a question of which one gets the worm first. While glass mirrors can be used they are open to the objection that applies to all glassware—they break. Consequently a concave mirror made of polished metal, such as the bowl of a silver tablespoon or large measuring spoon, is better, and the results equally satisfactory, the convex side being blackened. The hook is fastened on a line passed through a hole in the edge of the mirror and drops to the center, where it can be baited in the usual way.—J. W. Matley, New York City.



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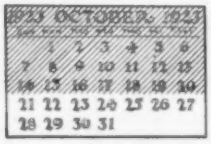

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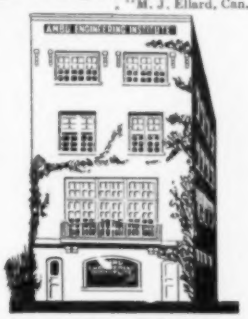

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